

FILE DESCRIPTION

PHILADELPHIA FILE

SUBJECT Thomas L. Black

FILE NO. 65-4332

VOLUME NO. 3

SERIALS 112

thru

170

## NOTICE

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VOLUME 3File No: 65-4332Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
112	6-13-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	1	1	
113	6-12-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	1	1	
114	6-12-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	2	2	
115	—	Charge Out slip	1	1	
116	6-12-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	1	1	
117	6-13-50	PH Teletype to HQ, NY, NK + WFO (typed copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
118	6-13-50	PH Teletype to HQ, NK + NY (Typed copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
119	6-13-50	NK Teletype to HQ, PH + NY (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
120	6-14-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	1	1	
121	6-9-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	3	3	
122	6-12-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	4	4	
123	6-14-50	PH SA Jo SAC Memo	2	2	

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			Actual	Released	
124	6-14-50	NK teletype to HQ, NY + PH (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
125	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	2	2	
126	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	
127	6-15-50	PH teletype to HQ, NY + NK (Typed copy)	5	0	see Bufile 65-59181
128	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	2	2	
129	6-14-50	PH teletype to HQ + NY (Typed copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
130	6-14-50	PH teletype to HQ, NK + NY (Typed copy)	3	0	see Bufile 65-59181
131	6-16-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	
132	6-15-50	PH teletype to HQ, NY + AQ (caption): Harry Gold (Typed copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-57449
133	6-14-50	PH teletype to RH (Typed copy)	1	1	
134	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo (caption): third party	2	2	
135	6-15-50	HQ teletype to PH + WFO (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181



VOLUME 3File No: 65-4332Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 10/78  
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136	6-16-50	NK Teletype to HQ, WFO PH, NY + AT (transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
137	6-15-50	NK Teletype to HQ, NY + PH (transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
138	6-15-50	PH Teletype to HQ, NY + NK (typed copy)	10	0	see Bufile 65-59181
139	6-16-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	
140	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	2	0	(copy in Harry Wald's file) see PH 65-4307
141	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	3	3	
142	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	4	4	
143	6-14-50	PH SA to SAC memo	2	2	
144	6-16-50	BA Teletype to HQ, PH NY + NK (transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
145	6-13-50	PH SA to SAC memo	4	4	
146	7-25-50	Charge Out Slip	1	1	
147	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	

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			Actual	Released	
148	6-16-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	
149	6-16-50	NY teletype to HQ, PH + NK (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
150	6-16-50	NK teletype to HQ, NY + PH (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
151	6-16-50	NY teletype to HQ, PH + NK (Transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
152	6-16-50	PH teletype to HQ, NY NK + BA (typed copy)	5	5	process - administrative markings
153	6-15-50	NY teletype to HQ, NK + PH (Transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
154	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	1	1	
155	6-13-50	PH letter to HQ	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
156	6-15-50	PH letter to NK	1	1	
157	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	3	3	
158	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	4	4	
159	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC memo	5	5	

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160	6-15-50	PH SA to SAC Memo	1	1	
161	6-15-50	PH Teletype to HQ (Typed copy)	4	0	see Bufile 65-59181
162	6-17-50	NK Teletype to HQ. NY + PH (Transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
163	6-16-50	NK Teletype to HQ, NY + PH (Transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
164	6-16-50	PH letter to NK	1	1	
165	6-16-50	NK Teletype to HQ, WFO. NY, PH + AL (transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
166	6-16-50	NK Teletype to HQ + PH (transmittal copy)	2	0	see Bufile 65-59181
167	6-16-50	PH SA to SAC Memo	1	1	
168	6-17-50	WFO Teletype to PH + HQ (transmittal copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181
169	6-17-50	NY Teletype to HQ, PH. + NK (Transmittal copy)	3	0	see Bufile 65-59181
170	6-17-50	PH Teletype to HQ + WFO (typed copy)	1	0	see Bufile 65-59181

145-6-6 mca.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOHN A. HYBINSTREET

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 13, 1950

Re Serial 66

On June 12, 1950 the writer interviewed Mrs. GLADYS PHILLIPS, Librarian, Wyeth Institute of Applied Biochemistry, 900 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A photograph of BLACK was exhibited to Mrs. PHILLIPS and she immediately identified the individual as being BLACK.

Mrs. PHILLIPS added that BLACK's hair as she recalled was sandy or reddish blond rather than black.

JAH/jmf  
65-4332

65-4332-112

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1950	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JAMES J. MIDDLETON

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 12, 1950

On 6/10/50, SA J. C. OUSLEY and the writer relieved SAs JOSEPH E. SPIVEY and EARL MITCHELL of their surveillance of the Subject at 4:00 p.m. at the North Philadelphia Station of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

4:13 p.m.

Subject boarded PRR train enroute to Newark, N. J. He was kept under surveillance to Newark by SAs J. C. OUSLEY, ROBERT M. GRANT and the writer.

5:25 p.m.

Subject arrived Newark and the surveillance was turned over to four Newark agents.

Surveillance notes are being retained as an exhibit in this file.

JJM:JEL  
65-4332

65.4332-113

IV

Wife  
read - 1/2

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ROBERT M. GRANT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 12, 1950

On 6/12/50, SA EARL MITCHELL and the writer took up a surveillance in the vicinity of 1929 North 6th Street, the residence of the Subject, at 6:25 a.m. The following is a schedule of the Subject's activities for the above date:

6:41 a.m.

Left home and walked to the M. L. LUNCHEONETTE, 1604 Germantown Avenue, and arrived at the M. L. LUNCHEONETTE at 8:47 a.m.

At 9:05 a.m., the surveillance was joined by SAs FRANCIS E. HESTER III and GORDON R. FLAXMAN.

9:11 a.m.

Entered HUTT'S DAIRY, Berks and 5th Streets, purchased one quart of milk and walked to his place of employment, CHARLES W. BERG LABORATORIES, 1827 North 5th Street.

9:32 a.m.

Left Laboratory and entered the delicatessen and candy store at 1802 North 5th Street.

9:38 a.m.

Returned to Laboratory.

11:38 a.m.

Left Laboratory and walked to the Cut Rate Drug Store, 2040 Germantown Avenue, arriving there at 11:46 a.m.

12:25 p.m.

Left the drug store, accompanied by an individual described as follows: 5' 8", about 155 pounds, about 50 years old, black, curly hair, thin on top, grey at temples, very red complexion and was wearing chocolate

RMG:ML  
65-4332

65-4332-114

W. J. H. /  
H. J. H. /

PH 65-4332, MEMO SAC, 6/12/50

Joseph A Mullen

brown gabardine trousers, light tan sport coat, white shirt, maroon tie and white rubber-soled shoes. The Subject and the unidentified individual walked south on 6th Street and entered a Ford sedan bearing 1950 Pennsylvania license number 731 EO, and sat in the car for five minutes. Both men left in the Ford and drove down approximately 1-1/2 blocks where the Subject got out of the car at the corner of 6th and Montgomery. The unknown man went south on 6th Street to the corner of 6th and Buttonwood, where he parked his car and wrote in a notebook for approximately 12 minutes. The unknown man did not get out of his car but drove to 5th and Arch, where he parked. The unknown man continued on foot to the corner of 5th and Market, whereupon he headed toward MICHELL'S SEED STORE, 518 Market, where the unknown man purchased a seed catalog. Unknown man left MICHELL'S after a stay of approximately 15 minutes, and proceeded to walk throughout LIT BROTHERS first floor. He left LIT BROTHERS and proceeded to a HORN and HARDART AUTOMAT located on 3th, directly off Arch. After having a cup of coffee and a sandwich, the Subject proceeded to his car and continued from there in the automobile to 2038 Rush Street. He arrived at this address at 2:30 p.m. He left this address at approximately 3:15 p.m. and drove to 6716 North 8th Street. He got out of the car and entered this address and was not seen from that time until 4:10 p.m., at which time the surveillance was called off.

PERMANENT CHARGEOUT

FD-  
(12-1-

CHARGE-OUT SLIP

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ENTIRE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS

NUMBER

LAST SERIAL

SERIALS \_\_\_\_\_

115

OF

65-4332

CLASS

FILE NUMBER

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL AGENT \_\_\_\_\_

RECHARGE

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TO \_\_\_\_\_

Transferred as Serial 7 in file 65-4348

FROM



ice Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: June 12, 1950

SAC

SA JAMES J. HINDLETON

THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

JECT:

On 6/11/50, SA J. CLIFFORD GUSLER and the writer relieved three Newark agents of the surveillance of the Subject when he returned to Philadelphia at 11:35 p.m. He proceeded from the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD STATION via subway to Broad and Columbia Avenue, where he boarded an eastbound streetcar enroute to his residence.

12:18 a.m., 6/12/50

Subject arrived at his residence, 1929 North Sixth Street.

2:35 a.m.

Lights in his room were turned out.

2:35 a.m.

Surveillance discontinued.

The above surveillance notes are being retained as an exhibit in this file.

JMH:DL  
65-4332

65-4332-116

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 14, 1950

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: FRANK L. ALICK, was.  
PS. TONING - R

On June 13, 1950, SA PAUL J. HOTTINGER observed the records of Dun and Bradstreet, Inc., PSFS Building, through the cooperation of MR. R. HOTTINGER concerning the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, 1027 North Fifth Street, Philadelphia.

These records reflect that the Berg Laboratories market products under the name of "Derlab" and also under the name "Fairchild and French". The record indicates the Berg Laboratories is the manufacturer of chemical specialties and that CHARLES W. BERG is in partnership with WILLIAM ALKUS. The business was initially established in 1919 under the control of the senior partner, CHARLES W. BERG, and registered under the style of Fairchild and French on April 19, 1930, by BERG. This latter style is used in connection with distribution of disinfectant. The trade style of Derlab was registered on September 5, 1944, by CHARLES W. BERG and WILLIAM ALKUS.

The concern was reorganized on July 1, 1944 to succeed the initial establishment of CHARLES W. BERG by the admission of ALKUS as a partner.

BERG, was born in the United States in 1880, was indicated as married and was interested in the Neatsfoot Oil Refineries Corporation, but disposed of his interest in this concern in 1936.

ALKUS, born in the United States about 1912, was married and employed by BERG for a period of approximately 15 years prior to his admission as a partner into the concern.

The records indicate that the number of employees varies but is placed at approximately six, with representation by four salesmen, in addition to the senior partner. The records of Dun and Bradstreet fail to reflect any other buildings of the above branch or of any in other cities.

65-4332-120

HLS:MM  
65-4332W. Searl  
HLS  
AC

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOSEPH E. SPIVAK

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/9/50

The surveillance on subject was resumed by SA EARL MITCHELL and the writer at subject's residence, 1929 North 6th Street, at 6:23 AM, June 9, 1950:

8:42 AM Subject came out of residence through door, and closed door behind him. He then walked to window, which is believed to be to his bedroom, raised window from bottom and crawled through open window back into the residence.

8:46 AM Departed residence through door and walked south on 6th Street, then east on Berks Street, and South on Germantown Avenue to M L Luncheonette.

8:48 AM Entered M L Luncheonette, 1822 Germantown Avenue.

8:59 AM Crossed Germantown Avenue and 5th Street and entered Berg Laboratories, 1827 North 5th Street.

9:15 AM Departed Laboratories and walked north on 5th Street carrying several empty milk bottles.

9:16 AM Entered Hutts Dairies, 5th and Berks Street

9:17 AM Emerged from Hutts Dairies with quart bottle of milk.

9:18 AM Reentered Berg Laboratories.

9:58 AM Departed Berg Laboratories with unknown individual.

Activities of unknown individual will be set out in this memorandum following description of activities of subject.

10:01 AM Returned to Berg Laboratories alone.

11:05 to  
11:28 AM

Two men were observed upstairs with subject, who were believed to be Mr. CHARLES W. BERG and his son-in-law.

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65-4332

65-4332-1-B-18  
see 65-4332-1-B-18  
K. 4348

Could be 13-50  
present line of

65-4332-121

Walter

Swill

MEMORANDUM, SAC

11:25 AM Departed Berg Laboratories.  
11:32 AM Entered Cut Rate Drug Store, 2000 Block North 6th Street.  
12:22 PM Departed Cut Rate Drug and walked south on 6th Street.  
12:23 PM Entered residence, 1929 North 6th Street.  
12:32 PM Departed residence.  
12:34 PM Entered cigar store, 1808 Germantown Avenue.  
12:35 PM Departed cigar store with package of Carol cigarettes and newspaper.  
12:36 PM Reentered Berg Laboratories.  
2:35 PM Departed Berg Laboratories.  
2:36 PM Entered delicatessen, northwest corner North 5th Street and Montgomery Avenue.  
2:57 PM Departed delicatessen with small can, contents unknown, which appeared to resemble a can of frozen orange juice.  
2:58 PM Reentered Berg Laboratories.  
4:00 PM Surveillance taken over by SAs JAMES J. MIDDLETON and J. CLIFFORD CUSLEY.

At approximately 9:10 AM, the above surveillance was joined by SAs FRANCIS E. HESTER, III and GORDON E. PLAYMAN, who remained with surveillance after it was taken over by Agents MIDDLETON and CUSLEY.

The following information pertains to activities of unknown individual who emerged from Berg Laboratories with subject at 9:52 AM. The following observations were made by SA EARL MITCHELL:

At 9:59 AM, the subject was seen approaching the corner of 5th and Berks Streets talking with an unknown man.

At 10:00, the unknown man got into a yellow cab which was waiting on

MEMORANDUM, SAC

Berkie Street and was driven directly to 2nd and Chew Streets. The unknown man got out of the cab and with the assistance of the driver, took four bags onto the porch of 199 Chew Street.

The cab driver, HARRY ROSEN, was contacted immediately thereafter by SA MITCHELL and he advised that he had picked his fare up at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel at 9:45 AM. ROSEN advised that the man had just gotten out of an airport limousine and instructed to stop at 5th and Berks while he made a contact with a friend.

*Yellow  
Cab # 657*

According to ROSEN, the unknown man was only out of the cab for two or three minutes before he reappeared with another man, known to the Agents to be the subject, and stood talking with this man for only a short time. During the trip to 2nd and Chew, the man told ROSEN that he had just returned from Rome, Italy, and had left La Guardia Airport this morning.

At 10:20 AM, SA MITCHELL returned to 2nd and Chew and observed the unknown man entering the house, presumably for the first time. It was apparent from his activities that no one was in the house, and that he had had difficulties in gaining entrance. SA MITCHELL was relieved of this surveillance by SAS ROBERT V. HANCOCK and THERON D. RUSHING at 12:30 PM.

The following description of the unknown man was obtained through the observation of SAS JOSEPH E. SPIVEY, EARL MITCHELL and GORDON B. PLAYMAN:

Height	5' 9"
Weight	Approximately 150 lbs.
Age	40 to 45
Complexion	Medium
Hair	Dark brown or black, combed straight back
Build	Medium to slender

The Agents' surveillance notes are being retained as an exhibit in the 1-A serial of 65-4232.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JAMES J. MIDDLETON

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 12, 1950

On 6/9/50, SA J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY and the writer relieved SAs JOSEPH W. SPIVEY and EARL MITCHELL of their surveillance of the Subject at 4:05 p.m. At this time, Subject was at his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

4:35 p.m.

Subject was observed by SAs J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY and FRANCIS B. HESTER III to depart from his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street, and proceed across the street, where he entered a small cigar store, mentioned previously in other memoranda, where he bought an evening newspaper and consumed a cold drink.

4:45 p.m.

Returned to his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

5:00 p.m.

Departed from his place of employment and proceeded to his residence, 1929 North 6th Street. This was observed by SAs J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY and FRANCIS B. HESTER III.

5:30 p.m.

Departed from his residence and proceeded to the delicatessen store at 2000 Germantown Avenue, where he remained for approximately three minutes. From there, he proceeded to a small shoe store on the south side of Norris Street between Germantown Avenue and 6th Street, where he remained for approximately two minutes. From there, he proceeded north on the east side of Germantown Avenue for approximately one-half block, at which time he turned around and returned to his residence, 1929 North 6th Street. The above traveling was observed by SAs J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY, FRANCIS B. HESTER III and the writer.

5:45 p.m.

Arrived at his residence, 1929 North 6th Street.

65-4332-122

JJM:EEI  
65-4332

copy 65-4332-1-B-19  
copy in 65-4348

MEMO SAC, 6/12/50, 65-4332

6:00 p.m.

Departed from his residence and proceeded to the corner of 6th and Berks Street, where he boarded a westbound trolley-car and proceeded to Broad and Columbia Avenue. From there he proceeded to 199 West Chew Street, which is the residence of FERDINAND HELLER.

7:15 p.m.

Observed by SA J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY at HELLER'S residence.

7:25 p.m.

Subject and FERDINAND HELLER departed from the above residence and proceeded in a late model blue Mercury two-door sedan to the 1900 block of Dallas Avenue, where Subject and HELLER were observed to depart from the automobile and proceed to the porch of a residence, the number of which was not obtained. This was observed by SA FRANCIS B. HESTER III. It is believed that no one was present at this residence, inasmuch as they did not enter, but returned to the automobile and returned to 199 West Chew Street.

*License H-2206*

7:50 p.m.

*to → F.P.*

*Heller  
199 W. Chew St, Philadelphia*

Subject and HELLER entered the residence at 199 West Chew Street. This was observed by SAs FRANCIS B. HESTER III, GORDON B. PLAYMAN and the writer.

7:55 p.m.

Subject and HELLER departed from the residence and proceeded to North 6th Street between Olney and Tabor Road, where they parked the automobile and proceeded walking to a sandwich shop located at 5511 North 5th Street.

8:12 p.m.

Entered sandwich shop.

8:35 p.m.

Departed sandwich shop and returned to automobile and proceeded to 199 West Chew Street.

MEMO SAC, 6/12/50, 65-4332

8:40 p.m.

Arrived 199 West Chew Street.

8:44 p.m.

HELLER and Subject departed 199 West Chew Street and proceeded to the corner of Broad and Olney, where they picked up an unidentified woman. Her description is as follows:

5' 5"  
110  
round face  
brunette  
approximately 25 years of age  
rather attractive

It is believed that this woman is possibly HELLER'S girl friend, inasmuch as she lavished much attention on F. RICHARD HELLER.

8:51 p.m.

Woman was picked up. From Broad and Olney Streets, they proceeded to 1900 block of Dallas Street. They did not stop at any address but continued around the block and returned to the corner of Broad and Olney, where BLACK departed from the automobile and entered the Olney subway station.

9:15 p.m.

Subject entered subway station. SA J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY conducted surveillance of Subject to his residence.

9:50 p.m.

Subject arrived 1929 North 6th Street.

10:30 p.m.

Subject departed from his residence and proceeded to cut rate drug store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.

10:34 p.m.

He arrived cut rate drug store.



MEMO SAC, 6/12/50, 65-4332

11:02 p.m.

Departed from cut rate drug store and proceeded to his residence, 1929 North 6th Street.

11:06 p.m.

Arrived at his residence.

2:15 a.m., 6/10/50

Lights were turned out at his residence.

2:35 a.m.

Surveillance discontinued.

After Subject departed from HELLER'S automobile at Broad and Olney Streets, FERDINAND HELLER and the young woman accompanying him proceeded to HELLER'S residence, 199 West Chow Street, where they were observed by SAs FRANCIS B. HESTER III and GORDON E. PLATTEN to enter the home.

10:05 p.m.

The surveillance of HELLER and the unidentified girl was discontinued.

The notes covering the above surveillance are being retained as an exhibit in this file.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 14, 1950

On 6/14/50, SA CLARENCE W. FRYE, R. A., State College, Pa., telephonically advised the writer that the records of the Office of the Recorder, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa., revealed that FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER attended Pennsylvania State College from December, 1926, to June 10, 1930. HELLER is indicated as attending the School of Chemistry and Physics, graduating with a B. S. Degree in Chemistry and maintained an average of 1.29 out of a possible 3.00. His home address at time of attendance, Pennsylvania State College, was indicated as 199 West Chew Avenue, Philadelphia. He is indicated as having attended and graduated from the Northeast High School in Philadelphia. As further information, the records indicate that HELLER attended the required first two years of ROTC training while at Pennsylvania State College. Agent Frye advised that a notation appears in the file which indicates that HELLER'S transcript of record was forwarded on 12/6/30 to the UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

Agent FRYE advises he checked the Student Directories for Pennsylvania State College and obtained the following information:

In the period from 1926-1927, HELLER resided at 628 South Allen Street, State College.

In the period from 1927-1928, no record.

1928-1929, HELLER's residence is indicated as Watts Hall, a men's dormitory at the College.

In 1929-1930, HELLER resided at 113 Weister Street, State College.

Agent Frye obtained from the Pennsylvania State College Yearbook of 1930 a photograph of HELLER, which was taken in the period January to June, 1930, which photograph will be forwarded to this office.

The records of the Alumni Office, Pennsylvania State

HAS:NEC  
65-4332

copy in 65-4348

65-4332-123

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PH 65-4332, MEMO SAC, 6/14/50

College, indicate an entry as of October 14, 1948, which reflected that HELLER resided at 199 West Chew Avenue in Philadelphia and was employed in "chemical process sales for the American Chemical Paint Company, of Ambler, Pa." No other notations appeared in the records of the Alumni Office.

Agent Frye advised that the records of the Department of Chemistry at Pennsylvania State College are identical with those maintained in the Recorders's Office; however, in addition, there appeared an address which is believed to be that of HELLER sometime during the period 1926-1930. This address is set forth as 510 West Cumberland Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Directory of Chemistry Graduates of Pennsylvania State College for 1948, which is the last edition, indicates HELLER'S address as 199 West Chew Avenue, with the same employment as listed in the records of the Alumni Office, Pennsylvania State College.

*Black* Agent Frye advised that the records at PSC indicate that the above Subject took the first two years of ROTC training as required by PSC. Frye stated that ROTC training is required for all physically capable males attending PSC, and that the last two years are elective. Attention is directed to the fact that ~~HELLER~~ had *Black* circulated rumors to the effect that he had been ousted from PSC for failure to take ROTC training.

Agent Frye advised that the former head of the Department of Chemistry at PSC, DR. GROVER C. CHANDLER, would probably recall both BLACK and HELLER, in that CHANDLER has a remarkable memory and maintains a record of former students of the Chemistry Department at PSC. Previous reference to CHANDLER appears in Serial 26 of the instant file. Agent Frye states that he had contacted DR. CHANDLER on numerous occasions in connection with Atomic Energy and Loyalty investigations, and that CHANDLER has been extremely cooperative and is apparently reliable. It is noted that CHANDLER presently resides at RFD 1, Conestoga, Pa.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JAMES J. WIDENSTON

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/14/50

At 4:05 p.m. on 6/13/50, SAS J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY, ALFRED F. WELLSBERG, WILLIAM G. CURRALL and the writer relieved SAS JOSEPH E. SPIVAY, ROBERT M. GRANT and EARL MITCHELL of their surveillance of the Subject at his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street. At this time, GUSLEY conducted a surveillance on the rear entrance of the C. W. BERG LABORATORIES. SAS WILLIAM G. CURRALL and ALFRED F. WELLSBERG conducted a surveillance of the front entrance of the C. W. BERG LABORATORIES and SAS FRANCIS B. HESTER III and the writer also conducted a surveillance of the front entrance of the C. W. BERG LABORATORY.

4:46 p.m.

Subject departed from the front entrance of his place of employment, and proceeded to a small cigar store at 1809 Germantown Avenue.

4:50 p.m.

Subject returned to his place of employment from the cigar store, carrying a newspaper.

5:10 p.m.

SA FRANCIS B. HESTER III was relieved.

7:20 p.m.

Subject departed 1827 North 5th Street and proceeded to the Cut Rate Drug Store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.

7:26 p.m.

Subject arrived Cut Rate Drug Store.

7:52 p.m.

Subject departed Cut Rate Drug Store, 2040 Germantown Avenue, conversed

JJM:MLL  
65-4332

65-4332-125

W. L. H. J. W. A. W.

PH 65-4332, MEMO SAC, 6/14/50

for a short time with an unknown individual at the front of the drug store on the 6th Street side. After a short conversation, he proceeded to his residence, 1929 North 6th Street.

8:00 p.m.

Arrived 1929 North 6th Street.

8:05 p.m.

Departed 1929 North 6th Street and proceeded to his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

8:09 p.m.

Arrived 1827 North 5th Street.

10:12 p.m.

Departed 1827 North 5th, carrying a package under his arm which appeared to be a cardboard carton.

10:16 p.m.

Arrived 1929 North 6th Street.

10:55 p.m.

Lights in his room were turned out.

11:30 p.m.

Surveillance was discontinued.

Surveillance notes are being retained as an exhibit in this file.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOSEPH E. SPIVEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 14, 1950

The surveillance on the subject was resumed by SA ROBERT M. GRANT and the writer at subject's residence, 1929 North Sixth Street at 6:29 a.m., June 13, 1950.

7:43 a.m. Subject departed residence and walked to Hutt's Dairies, corner Berks and Fifth Street.

7:44 a.m. Entered Hutt's Dairies.

7:45 a.m. Departed Hutt's Dairies with quart bottle of milk.

7:46 a.m. Entered Charles W. Berg Laboratories, 1827 North Fifth Street.

7:50 a.m. Departed Berg Laboratories, crossed Fifth Street and Germantown Avenue, and entered M. L. Luncheonette, 1822 Germantown Avenue.

8:10 a.m. Departed luncheonette and returned to Berg Laboratories.

11:28 a.m. Departed Berg Laboratories and walked North on Fifth Street to Berks Street, west on Berks Street to Germantown Avenue, and north on Germantown Avenue to Cut Rate Drug, 2000 block North Sixth Street.

12:12 p.m. Departed Cut Rate Drug and walked south on Sixth Street.

12:14 p.m. Entered residence 1929 North Sixth Street.

12:42 p.m. Departed residence and walked to Berg Laboratories.

12:44 p.m. Entered Berg Laboratories.

4:05 p.m. Surveillance taken over by SAs JAMES J. MIDDLETON, J. CLIFFORD CUSLEY, WILLIAM C. CURELL, and ALFRED F. HELMEBERG.

At approximately 8:50 a.m., the above surveillance was joined by SAs EARL MITCHELL and FRANCIS B. HESTER, III.

JES:ALC  
65-4392

65-4332-126

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 14 1950	
FBI - PHILADELPHIA	

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ALLAN M. OPPEN

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/15/50

Pursuant to the instructions of Field Supervisor NORRIS S. HARZENSTEIN on 6/14/50, the following information was developed relative to the South Broad Street Cleaners and Tailors, 308 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa.:

- (1) The current issue of the Philadelphia Address Telephone Directory lists the following numbers:

South Broad Street Cleaners and Tailors  
308 South Broad Street  
Telephone Number: KI 5-2724

J. H. STEIN Laundry  
308 South Broad Street  
Telephone Number: KI 5-2724

- (2) The current issue of the regular Philadelphia Telephone Directory lists the following numbers:

JACK H. STEIN  
308 South Broad Street  
Telephone Number: KI 5-2724

JACK H. STEIN  
225 South Broad Street  
Telephone Number: KI 5-0373

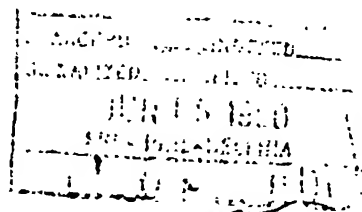
- (3) The following information was abstracted from Philadelphia file [REDACTED] 21799, entitled, "JACOB HAROLD STEIN, WAS., JACK STEIN, JACK STEINBERG; LUCY MILDRED STEIN, nee SOMOROFF [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

Subjects, JACOB HAROLD STEIN and his wife, LUCY MILDRED STEIN, were proposed for CP membership in 1943, accepted on February 28, 1943, and issued Membership Books #96619 (JACK STEIN) and #96622 (LUCY STEIN). Subjects transferred to 7th Congressional District Section, CP, USA, in March, 1943, and carried on rolls

AMG:ams  
62-1332

cc: [REDACTED] 21799 (JACK H. and LUCY M. STEIN)

(b)(7)(c)



15-4332-128

MEMO, SAC

6/15/50

of 49th Ward Branch, 7th Congressional District, CP, USA. Upon being contacted by a Party member, the subject and his wife stated they never joined the Party and that their application had been put through by an un-named relative in Strawberry Mansion against their wishes. STEIN and his wife were thereupon dropped from the CP Rolls. Subject, JACOB HAROLD STEIN, is described as being 5'5½", having brown hair and brown eyes, born 12/24/02 at Baltimore, Md. Subject, LUCY STEIN, is described as being 5'2", having hazel eyes, and brown hair. She was born 9/15/03 at Kamenetz, Russia, and was registered in 1940 under Alien Registration No. 3074275. The address given for JACOB and LUCY STEIN is 4756 North Hutchinson Street, Philadelphia, Pa. The current Philadelphia Telephone Directory reflects number DA 4-1664 is registered in the name of MRS. LUCY STEIN, 4756 North Hutchinson Street.

MR. SHOCKLEY, mail carrier to Logan Street Post Office, advised that subject was presently employed in the dry cleaning business somewhere on lower Broad Street, but he did not know and was unable to ascertain the address.

(b)(7)(c) A photograph of JACOB HAROLD STEIN, which is maintained in the 1A Section of file [REDACTED] 1799, has been tentatively identified by Agents on the surveillance of subject, BLACK, as being one of the individuals to whom BLACK spoke at the time he was observed at 308 South Broad Street, on June 14, 1950.

A check of the records of the Philadelphia Credit Bureau, Inc., in regard to JACK H. STEIN and the South Broad Street Cleaners and Tailors, 308 South Broad Street, was made by SE PAUL J. HOTTINGER on 6/14/50. No information regarding STEIN or the South Broad Street Cleaners and Tailors was obtained.



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ROBERT M. GRANT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/16/50

The surveillance was begun on the residence of THOMAS L. BLACK, 1929 N. 6th Street, Philadelphia, at 6:42 AM by SA FREDERICK E. GRAPER and the writer.

At 8:38 AM, BLACK left his home and proceeded to the M & L Lunch-conette, 1820 Germantown Avenue, arriving at 8:44 AM and departing at 8:58 AM.

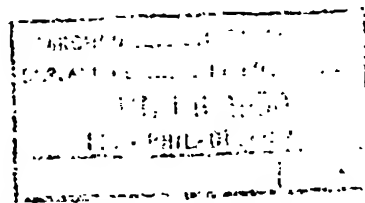
At 8:59 AM, he stood in front of his place of employment, the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, 1827 North 5th Street, until 9:02 AM, when he proceeded to the Hutts Dairy, Berks Street near 5th. He departed from the Dairy at 9:04 AM with one quart of milk in his hand and arrived in the Laboratory at 9:06 AM.

The surveillance was joined by SAS GORDON B. PLAYMAN and EWING S. HUMPHREYS, JR. at 9:15 AM.

At 10:05 AM, SAS WILLIAM B. WELTE and ROBERT W. HOLMES were observed departing from the Laboratory with the subject at which time the surveillance was discontinued.

The surveillance notes of the writer will be made an exhibit in file 65-4332.

rmg/rac  
65-4332



65-4332-131

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Transmit the following Teletype message to: RICHMOND

FBI PHILA

6-14-50

6:45 P.M.

SAC, RICHMOND

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER, ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT  
REPORTED POSSIBLY ATTENDED UNIV. OF VA., THIRTY ONE. RICHMOND REQUESTED  
TO CHECK RECORDS OF U OF VA. FOR ALL BACKGROUND INFO AND RECORD OF  
ATTENDANCE OF HELLER AT THE U OF VA. HELLER BORN PHILA, DECEMBER TWELVE,  
NINETEEN NAUGHT SEVEN. ATTENDED PENNA STATE COLLEGE, TWENTYSIX THROUGH  
THIRTY, RESIDENCE IN PHILA AT TIME ONE NINE NINE WEST CHEW AVE. EXPEDITE.  
SUTEL....

CORNELIUS

HAS:lpm  
65-4332

cc: 65-4346 (FRED HELLER)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge-in

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

June 15, 1950

SECRET - 2

1. The following is a copy of SA W. L. B. WEISS submitted 6/15/50  
 2. B. L. Weiss, 1000 1st St. N. N. W. Washington, D. C.  
 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 82

... JAMES, Esquire, Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County, Penna., City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., made the record available of the divorce granted to MARGARET L. HUBER from JOSEPHINE F. HUBER.

1. The following is a list of the Prothonotary's Office under Court of Common Pleas, New York City, New York, dated 1904, under the title:

[illegible]

WILSON, J. WILSON was represented by Attorney CHARLES A. WILSON and  
J. WILSON was represented by Attorney CHARLES A. WILSON.

On 7/11/30 at 3:00 P.M. by FRANK J. KOS, clergyman, Church of Transfiguration, 1 E. 29th Street, New York City, New York. The witnesses to the marriage were THOMAS J. BLISS, 17 Oxford Street, Newark, New Jersey, and KIM M. ROSS, 614 Jefferson Street, West Philadelphia, Pa. The marriage certificate contains the signatures of FRANK J. KOS, KIM M. ROSS, and MARIE E. BLISS.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE  
DATE 11-11-2010 BY 60322 UCBAW/STW

Name: JAMES H. HARRIS  
Address: 135 N. Tenth Avenue, Philadelphia  
Race: White

cc: 65-1532 ( - Mr. T. J. )

1994

June 14, 1950

June 14, 1950

Date: 12/12/37, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Occupation: Clerk  
Father: JOHN J. (born Virginia)  
Mother: MARY J. (born Germany)

As shown on application for license that there was no previous marriage. The wife also reflects subject is a graduate of Penn State College (no date given); that he lived in New York City from 1934 to 1936, and then came back to Philadelphia.

As the time of divorce both subject and his wife, MARGARET, were employed at the time of divorce. Subject was a clerk, Pa. He was a lockkeeper and he was a clerk. The wife was living at 101 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. at the time of divorce. She was a clerk at the time of divorce.

The only other person known to subject at the time of divorce was subject's father who lived at New Hotel Jackson, 12th and Locust Streets, St. Louis, Missouri.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/16/50

In the absence of MR. BERG, who is presently vacationing in Atlantic City, the writer on 6/16/50 at approximately 2:10 p.m. contacted MR. WALTER ALKUS, who is a partner in the ownership of the CHARLES W. BERG LABORATORIES, 1827 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. MR. ALKUS was advised that the above subject had given authorization to agents to conduct a search of his personal material currently located on the premises of the BERG LABORATORIES, and that it would be appreciated if MR. ALKUS would be present during the search, if permissible.

ALKUS readily agreed to assist in any manner that he could and an arrangement was made whereby SAs JOHN SALLIVAN and ELWOOD PETT would meet MR. ALKUS at the Laboratories at approximately 3:00 p.m. to conduct the above-mentioned search.

HAS:MMH  
65-4332

*1/2 haiki pants*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : WILLIAM B. WELTS, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 14, 1950

*June*  
On May 13, 1950, SA ROBERT W. MOLES and the writer interviewed Mr. LEON CHERKSEY, President of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY, Ambler, Pa. Mr. CHERKSEY advised that he is personally acquainted with FRED HELLER, as he is known by that company.

Their employment records show his name to be FRED PHILIP HELLER, a chemist, residence 192 W. Chew Street, telephone number Waverly 3152. He was born on December 12, 1907, Philadelphia, Pa. He was described as being 5'9", 165 pounds, marital status single. His father is FERDINAND HELLER, who was born in Austria, now deceased, and his mother was MARY HARRIAN, born in Germany, presently residing at 192 W. Chew Street. Membership in organizations was listed as AOC and AHI. He stated that he had had military training in ROTC when in college. His education was listed as four years of high school, graduating in 1926; four years of college, graduating in 1930 with a B.S. Degree; and one year of graduate school. He speaks German.

He was employed from July, 1931, to October, 1934, by the Pennsylvania Sugar Company, Franco-American Chemical Company (a subsidiary), and left when he received a better offer. From October, 1934, to January, 1937, he was employed by the CELLULOID CORPORATION OF AMERICA, and left because of his health. From May of 1937 to the present he has been employed by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY in Ambler, Pa.

As references he gave J. SKILTON, 6513 N. Park Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., Treasurer of a storage company; E. GIRARD, K-H Inst. Company Electrical Engineering; H. DALALIAN, 235 West Linwood Avenue, Ardmore, Pa., Chemist; and J. D. SKILTON, Roseland Avenue, Fox Chase Manor, Dentist.

The above application was executed on November 12, 1942, on an employment application form.

Mr. CHERKSEY said that HELLER had recently returned to this country from Rome, Italy, and had spent approximately five weeks making an installation of rust-proofing equipment at the Fiat Motor Car Company in Turin, Italy. On

WBS:WICG  
65-4932  
cc: 65-

(FERDINAND P. HELLER)

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED           | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED         | FILED   |
| JUN 14 1950        |         |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |         |

*W. B. Wells*

MEMO SAC

6/14/50

His return from Italy, HELLER came in to see Mr. CHERKSEY and told him that he, CHERKSEY, could expect an interview from the FBI regarding HELLER. CHERKSEY asked HELLER why he should expect an interview and HELLER told him that he had worked with HARRY GOLD when both were employed at the PENNSYLVANIA SUGAR COMPANY in Philadelphia, Pa. He told CHERKSEY that the Mayor of Turin was a Communist. Further than that he did not discuss any details of his trip.

Originally he was employed by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY as a chemist, but in recent years he has been employed in the capacity of sales and service, or, rather, technical representative's work. He is sent to various places who are licensees of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY and assists them in the setting up and eliminating the "bugs" in the equipment and production methods of rust-proofing metal.

This last trip to Italy was arranged and paid for by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY, and he was there for approximately five weeks. Prior to this HELLER was sent by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY to Europe, leaving Philadelphia on August 29, 1949, via TWA, for Geneva, and returned to New York December 15, 1949. While on this trip HELLER visited France, Switzerland, Germany, and presumably England and Italy, on business. On this trip HELLER was again sent there by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY for the purpose of assisting licensees to work out "bugs" in their equipment that would rust-proof metal. During this trip to Europe HELLER took a one week's vacation and went down somewhere in Italy.

Mr. CHERKSEY considers HELLER a very odd individual, stating that he should be a factory laborer rather than a chemist and technical representative. He found that HELLER's main interest in life is wine, women, and song, and he is more interested in drinking and running around than he is in any political ideologies. HELLER never expressed himself in the slightest way as being favorable toward Communism or pro-Russian.

HELLER's work at the present time is strictly along industrial and chemical lines, and is not classified.

MEMO 146

6/14/50

It was necessary for Mr. CHERKSEY to reprimand HELLER on his return from his last trip to Italy because during the entire time that he was there he never submitted a report on his progress.

HELLER, according to Mr. CHERKSEY, was chosen by the company to make the foreign trip over two men who, while probably more qualified in the particular field of rust-proofing metal, nevertheless had not been with the company nearly as long as HELLER and did not have the experience in the entire line of production of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY as did HELLER. For the latter reason HELLER was chosen by the officials to go on the foreign trips. In addition, HELLER had done some work for the company throughout the midwestern part of the United States in exactly the same field. For a period of time he lived in a hotel in Chicago and somewhere in Ohio. HELLER did the same work here as he did in Italy for the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY.

Mr. FREDERICK NAYLOR, Comptroller and Personnel Director of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY, knew HELLER since 1942. HELLER was originally employed by them as a chemist in the laboratory. He stated that HELLER is now in the category of a technical representative, and travels mainly on installation work for the company. It was NAYLOR's recollection that HELLER's first trip to Europe in August, 1949, was to consult with their European licensees to iron out their problems. His second trip was made specifically to iron out the problems of an installation of rust-proofing equipment made at the FIAT plant in Turin, Italy.

Mr. NAYLOR stated that his correct name is FREDERICK, but that he is commonly known as FRED. So far as Mr. NAYLOR is concerned, there is no reason to doubt HELLER's loyalty. NAYLOR stated that HELLER worked from early 1946 to June of 1949 as a technical representative for the AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT COMPANY, working out of Chicago, Ill., and later Ohio.



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : WILLIAM D. KELTE, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 14, 1950

SA ROBERT W. HOLMES and the writer interviewed Miss DOROTHY WISWELL, 105 East Cowen Avenue, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa., telephone number Chestnut Hill 76955.

Miss WISWELL was determined to be the ex-wife of FERDINAND P. HELLER. This information was secured by the Washington Field Office through their checking the records of the Department of State Passport Division records. Miss WISWELL, it was determined, was employed as a clerk by the American Chemical Paint Company, Ambler, Pa.

Mr. LEON CHERKIN, President of the Company, advised that Miss WISWELL, the former wife of FERDINAND HELLER, was employed by that Company but had no dealings with her former husband. They were not friendly.

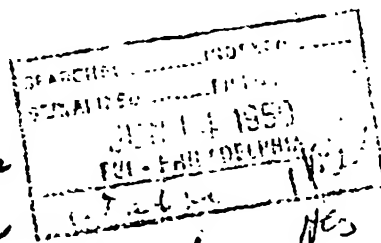
Miss WISWELL stated that she first met FERDINAND HELLER in 1937 and started going with him socially. They were married in 1943 and subsequently divorced around 1945. Miss HELLER advised that she met THOMAS L. BLACK either in 1937 or 1938 at a party in BLACK's apartment in Newark, New Jersey. At that time BLACK lived with an ERNIE SEGESSEMAN. Subsequent to her first meeting with BLACK, SEGESSEMAN moved to another apartment and BLACK later had a later roommate whose name was JOHN. She described JOHN as being a rather young man in his late teens, who, in 1942 left BLACK to go into the Army. JOHN, she ascertained, came from a large family and had many brothers. He was not a chemist and was rather ignorant. JOHN was only with BLACK for a short period of time during 1942. She could furnish no other information other than he was 5 ft. 8 in. tall, dark hair, swarthy complexion and appeared to be Jewish.

Miss WISWELL stated it was the custom of her and her husband, FERDINAND HELLER, to drive up on a Sunday and visit with BLACK for several hours. Between 1937 and 1945 at the time of her divorce, she estimated that she and HELLER would drive to Newark, N. J. to see BLACK approximately once a month. There were times when HELLER would visit BLACK without the presence of Miss WISWELL. She knew BLACK to

WBH:EMC

65-4332

cc: 65 - new (Ferdinand P. Heller)



See 1B25

why did she go to work  
for the same Co? She was there  
before Heller

SAC

June 14, 1950

then be employed by the National Oil Products Company. His residence was in an insurance company project apartment but she did not recall his exact address.

During the time that BLACK and HELLER were visiting together, they often discussed going into business for themselves and opening a Laboratory as consulting chemists. She recalls in many instances, HELLER would take chemical papers with him up to BLACK. She did not know if HELLER actually turned these papers over to BLACK but she did recall that BLACK would go through these papers.

After HELLER and Miss WISWELL were married in 1943, they took up residence at 105 East Cowen Avenue and on a number of occasions, BLACK came to visit HELLER at their apartment. HELLER and BLACK were originally classmates at Penn State College and they kept up their acquaintanceship since graduation.

A photograph of THOMAS L. BLACK was exhibited to Miss WISWELL and she was asked if she could identify that man. She stated immediately that it was TOM BLACK. She stated that HELLER did not call him TOM BLACK but called him TASSO.

All during the years that she can recall visiting with BLACK he lived in Newark.

After Miss WISWELL and her husband were divorced in 1945 she no longer saw BLACK. However, in the summer of 1946, THOMAS L. BLACK called her up on the telephone and made a dinner engagement with her. She was questioned why BLACK would make such an engagement with her and she advised that she tried to find out from him at that time why he was doing it but had not been successful. He told her at that time that he was working at the Berg Laboratories in Philadelphia and was living in a hotel in Philadelphia. He told her that he had not seen FERDINAND HELLER for a period of time and spoke in a rather derogatory fashion concerning him. She immediately stopped this line of approach and told him that she no longer had any interest in what FERDINAND HELLER was doing. *Magill  
Heller  
TASSO*

During the times that BLACK and HELLER discussed matters in the presence of Miss WISWELL, BLACK and HELLER would discuss the work that they themselves were doing as well as the work that their companies were doing. She does recall that BLACK and HELLER exchanged ~~ex~~ formulas with each other. These formulas that they exchanged she believed, related to the field in which each was working. However, each was not working in the same field as BLACK ?

SAC

June 14, 1950

was an organic chemist and HELLER an inorganic chemist. She believed that they discussed these things with each other possibly with the idea of going into business for themselves and the reason that they never did go into business for themselves was the fact that they lacked capital to start the business. Neither one was practical and both were theoretical men. She recalled that FERDINAND HELLER either lent or gave BLACK money on several occasions but she did not know why. She stated that she could not recall BLACK ever giving HELLER any sums of money and doubted very much if he did since BLACK did not have nearly as good a job as HELLER had.

During the 1930's BLACK had some pro-Communist ideas and HELLER and BLACK on a number of occasions in her presence, discussed Marxism and Leninism. Both would discuss the various phases of Communism. In 1948 BLACK told her that he no longer had ideas along the line of sympathy with Russia. This was the time that BLACK took her out to dinner.

She stated that BLACK and HELLER both got out of school in the early 1930's and that FERDINAND HELLER went to live in Greenwich Village, New York after graduation. BLACK also lived in the New York area. There, she felt they became acquainted with some of the radical element who were living in that part of New York possibly at the time.

She described BLACK as being a "screwball." For example, she stated, BLACK had a pet black crow which had the run of his apartment. He also had some type of animal which she could not recall which BLACK kept in the bathtub. This animal lived in the bathtub and precluded BLACK from ever using the tub himself. She stated his apartment was kept in a constant mess. BLACK, according to her, did not drink and she never saw him in the company of women.

She recalled that on several occasions she heard BLACK and HELLER discuss ALTORG. She was not exactly certain as to what their particular discussion was but has a recollection that it dealt with the two of them discussing what ALTORG wanted. She stated that the needs and desires of ALTORG was not part of their scheme to go into business. She did not know the purpose of these discussions. She also has a recollection of some chemical formulas being discussed in connection with ALTORG. She does not recall either one ever stating that they were contacted by anyone from ALTORG.

Miss WISEWELL was extremely vague in these particular points and stated that all this occurred during a part of her life, namely with FERDINAND HELLER, that she was not desirous of remembering.

SAC

June 14, 1950

She furnished the following background information regarding FERDINAND HELLER. HELLER's father is now deceased. His mother is MARY HELLER residing 199 North West Chew Street. He has a sister, IDELLA KOCH, who is divorced, residing at 199 West Chew Street and a brother, HENRY HELLER, address unknown. FERDINAND HELLER is a graduate of Penn State College, having taken his high schooling in Philadelphia presumably at the Northeast High School for Boys. Upon graduation from Pa. State College, he went six months to the University of Virginia where he undertook graduate studies. She did not know too much of HELLER's background but stated he had told her on one occasion that he had been married prior to his marriage with her but that there was a Mexican divorce. However, she stated on his application for their marriage license no mention was made of any divorce.

Regarding BLACK and HELLER, she stated in 1948 BLACK indicated to her that they had had a falling out and he had not seen HELLER for some time. Miss WISWELL stated insofar as her ex-husband FERDINAND HELLER is concerned, they are both employed at the same plant. This makes it necessary on occasions for them to talk. However, she is not friendly with him at the plant and has no social contact with him. Her association with him at the plant is no more than absolutely necessary for normal business relations. Miss WISWELL offered to discuss these matters further with the writer and SA HOLMES and arrangements will be made for her to be interviewed at greater length in the Philadelphia office in the near future. She agreed at that time to bring a photograph of FERDINAND HELLER she still has in her possession.

Prior to the interview with Miss WISWELL, Mr. CHERKINSKY stated she was considered to be one of their best employees in a clerical capacity, that she was very reliable and loyal and that she had no connections with FERDINAND HELLER at the present time.

The writer's notes are being retained.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JAMES E. HEIMER

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, wa  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 14, 1950

Reference is made to the memorandum of SA ROBERT M. GRANT, dated June 12, 1950, in the captioned matter.

On June 12, 1950 the writer contacted MERLIN DENNIS JAMES, Vice-President of the Joseph F. Daly, Inc., Ford Motor Agency, 53rd and Baltimore Avenue, Philadelphia, telephone Granite 45000, in relation to determining to whom the Daly Company had rented the 1950 black Ford bearing 1950 Pennsylvania license #731EC, on June 12, 1950.

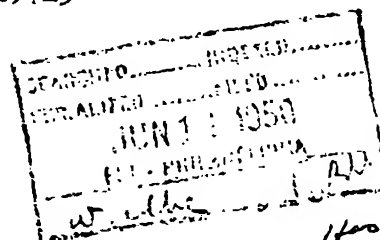
According to JAMES, instant automobile, bearing Motor Number EOC5112159, had been rented on June 26, 1950 to JOSEPH A. MULLEN on a six-month basis with an option to purchase said automobile at the end of the six-month period. JAMES stated that CAVAN J. QUINLAN, Purchasing Agent at the Western Electric Company, 300 Allegheny Avenue, had recommended MULLEN to JAMES prior to the rental of the 1950 Ford automobile. JAMES stated that JOSEPH A. MULLEN's son, who was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, had married QUINLAN's daughter and since QUINLAN was a good friend of the Daly Motor Company, his recommendation of MULLEN was accepted without any question.

Recalling this particular transaction, JAMES stated that MULLEN had accepted some type of position as a salesman with some leather company and had purchased the car under the optional agreement because of a shortage of funds.

Mr. JAMES furnished the following background information concerning JOSEPH A. MULLEN:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Age:                | 58 (January 26, 1950)   |
| Race:               | White   |
| Height:             | 5'9"  |
| Weight:             | 150 to 160  |
| Hair:               | Graying   |
| Address:            | 6716 North 8th Street,<br>Philadelphia, where he has resided 23 years |
| Pennsylvania Auto-  | Plates #1683231   |
| mobile Operator's   | License #1709715  |
| License on 1/25/50: |   |

JEH:MPM  
65-4332



65-4332-143

1  
Kearney, SAC

June 14, 1950

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Employment:       | Hugo Boss Leather Co., Springfield, Ohio<br>(MULLEN indicated this was a new position) |
| Past employment:  | Self-employed for four years at 34th<br>and Walnut Streets                             |
| Bank reference:   | Corn Exchange Bank, 2nd & Chestnut Sts.,<br>Philadelphia                               |
| Credit reference: | North American Credit, Finance Bldg., Phila.   |

Mr. JAMES telephoned CAVAN QUINLAN under a pretext concerning the purchase of the 1950 Ford and determined from QUINLAN that JOSEPH A. MULLEN has been travelling as a salesman throughout the United States and was believed at the present time to be somewhere in Florida. QUINLAN was unable to tell JAMES the exact company that MULLEN represented and JAMES did not press the question inasmuch as he felt that MULLEN was employed by the Hugo Boss Leather Company.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 13, 1950

FROM : SA JAMES J. MIDDLETON

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. FLICK, was  
ESPIONAGE - R

On June 12, 1950 SAs WILLIAM G. CURRAH and J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY relieved SAs FRANCIS B. HESTER, III, and GORDON P. PLAYMAN of their surveillance of the subject at his place of employment, 1827 N. 5th Street, at 3:50 p.m.

SA ALFRED F. HELLSBERG and the writer relieved SAs EARL MITCHELL and ROBERT M. ORANT of their surveillance of an individual driving a black 1950 Ford, Pennsylvania license 73180, at 4:10 p.m. At this time, the individual was in the house located at 6716 N. 8th Street. *Note: Joseph A. Mullen - 6716 N 8th St. "73180" rented full July 1950*

4:12 p.m. HELLSBERG and MIDDLETON received instructions to discontinue and return to the subject's place of employment. *5/14/50*

4:38 p.m. HELLSBERG and MIDDLETON took up a surveillance of the rear entrance of the C. W. BERG Laboratories, 1827 N. 5th Street.

5:02 p.m. Subject was observed by CURRAH and GUSLEY to depart from his place of employment and proceed to a small bar across the street. At this time he was accompanied by another man.

5:11 p.m. Subject and companion left the bar and entered a late model light green DeSoto, 1950 Pennsylvania registration tags LP392. A check of this license number revealed that this automobile was registered to C. W. BERG, 1827 N. 5th Street.  
*J. K. 18 Bar.*

Subject and companion proceeded to a house located on the northeast corner of 65th Avenue and 12th Street.  
*6503 N. 12th St. C. W. BERG*

5:30 p.m. Arrived at the above address. Companion entered the house where he remained for approximately 10 minutes.

5:40 p.m. Companion returned to the car, and with the subject, proceeded to 1903 Dallas Street.

5:45 p.m. Arrived at 1903 Dallas Street. Subject departed from the car and entered the residence, where he remained for approximately 1/2 minutes.  
*"L. Cooper Address"*

65-4332-145  
65-4332

65-4332-145

*exhibit*  
*101*

Memo - SAC

5:49 p.m. Subject departed from the 1903 Dallas Street address carrying what appeared to be a small notebook or possibly a pair of gloves in his hand, and was driven by his companion to the corner of 20th Street and Ogontz Avenue, where the subject departed from the car and caught a No. 6 trolley, #2035, which was traveling toward the center city.

5:56 p.m. Boarded the No. 6 trolley and proceeded to the North Broad Street subway stop at Olney Avenue.

6:10 p.m. Arrived at the Olney subway station and entered the station, supposedly to catch a southbound subway train. At this time, subject did not board the subway train but proceeded to the drugstore located on the northeast corner of Broad Street and Olney Avenue.

6:56 From 6:10 p.m. until 6:56 p.m. he was making a telephone call from the middle telephone booth located inside the drugstore. There are three such booths.

6:56 Subject departed Whelan's Drugstore and boarded a streetcar which proceeded down Old York Road to Germantown Avenue and south on Germantown Avenue to his place of employment, 1827 N. 5th Street. #65 542114 CAR 8375.

7:20 7:35 p.m. Subject arrived at his place of employment, 1827 N. 5th Street.

~~7:35 p.m.~~ Surveillance of the subject from Broad Street and Olney Avenue to his place of employment was conducted by SA J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY.

8:00 p.m. SAs HELLEBERG and WIDDEBTON took up the surveillance of the front entrance of the C. W. BERG Laboratories and Agents OUSLEY and CURPALL took up the surveillance of the rear entrance to the laboratories.



Memo - SAC

8:35 p.m. Subject departed from his place of employment carrying what appeared to be two packages wrapped together with masking tape and proceeded to his residence, 1929 N. 6th Street.

8:40 p.m. Arrived at 1929 N. 6th Street.

8:50 p.m. Departed from 1929 N. 6th Street, proceeded to his place of employment.

8:52 p.m. Deposited letter in the mail box located on the southeast corner of Berks Street and Germantown Avenue.

8:54 p.m. Arrived at 1827 N. 5th Street.

8:56 p.m. Departed from 1827 N. 5th Street and proceeded to his residence carrying two packages, one under each arm. The packages appeared to be cardboard containers with sealing tape wrapped around them.

9:00 p.m. Arrived at 1929 N. 6th Street.

9:05 p.m. Departed 1929 N. 6th Street and proceeded to small cigar store located at 1808 Germantown Avenue.

9:10 p.m. Arrived at cigar store and remained there for approximately four minutes.

9:14 p.m. Entered his place of employment, 1827 N. 5th Street.

9:35 p.m. Departed from 1827 N. 5th Street, carrying two cardboard boxes and proceeded to his residence.

9:40 p.m. Arrived at 1929 N. 6th Street.

9:50 p.m. Departed 1929 N. 6th Street and proceeded to the cutrate drug-store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.

9:54 p.m. Arrived at 2040 Germantown Avenue.

Memo - SAC

10:00 p.m. Subject was observed making a telephone call from a public telephone located inside the cut-rate drugstore. The telephone number from which the call was made is Fremont 7-9755.

10:20 p.m. Departed from drugstore.

10:24 p.m. Arrived at 1929 N. 6th Street.

11:30 p.m. Lights in his room were turned out.

11:45 p.m. Surveillance discontinued.

*Handled  
to  
Lynch  
Guthrie*

Agents' notes of the above surveillance are being made an exhibit in this file.

FD-5  
(12-1-49)

DATE 7-25-50

CHARGE-OUT SLIP  
PERMANENT

ENTIRE FILE

CLASS

NUMBER

LAST SERIAL

SERIALS

146

OF 65

4332

CLASS

FILE NUMBER

Serial 146: Memo by SA Harzenstein, dtd Jun 15, 1950  
captioned: HARRY GOLD, was, etal, ESPIONAGE R

LOCATION

SPECIAL AGENT

THIS SERIAL HAS BEEN REMOVED AND PLACED IN FILE #

RECHARGE

DATE 65-4307

FROM

CCO

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : NORRIS S. HARZENSTEIN, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 15, 1950

On June 5, 1950, a conference was held with the Agents listed below, for the purpose of making certain they were acquainted with details of the GOLD case, particularly as they related to information furnished regarding THOMAS L. BLACK. Information then at hand regarding BLACK was discussed in detail, since it was anticipated that these Agents would be utilized in covering leads. The Agents were:

WELTE (to whom the BLACK case is assigned);  
HOLMES (who will assist in the interview of BLACK);  
HEBENSTREIT  
PIERCE  
HELMER  
SEARL  
HAGAN

On subsequent days various Agents have been utilized in connection with the surveillance of BLACK and these men have received necessary instructions before starting their duties.

NSH:VFH  
65-4332

Jm

65-4332-147

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. WALLACE RANSON

SUBJECT: THOMAS D. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE (R)

DATE: June 16, 1950.

At 2.55 p.m., this date, ASAC KASCH called from Newark to advise that at the Vauxhall Storage Warehouse in Newark the Agents had found 127 cartons of material, the property of BLACK, in addition to some other items and that to search the 127 cartons alone and review the material found therein by the two Agents named in the waiver would take weeks. He said that he had consulted with Mr. BARTON of the Bureau, who had authorized the use of additional personnel, provided written consent for such use could be obtained by the Philadelphia Office from BLACK. He would like to be advised telephonically as soon as such consent has been obtained, and further search will be withheld pending such advice.

Agent HOWARD A. SMITH, on the instruction of SAC CORNELIUS, was assigned to draw up a supplemental consent for potential approval by BLACK.

J.W.R:HEM  
65-

*Black request  
additional consent*

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |  |
| JUN 16 1950        |  |
|                    |  |

15 4337 148

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU, NEW YORK, NEWARK, & BALTIMORE

FBI PHILA.

6/16/50

8:27 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS, NEW YORK, NEWARK & BALTIMORE.

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE-R. BLACK'S RESIDENCE AT MAJESTIC HOTEL IN PHILA. SEPT. <sup>First</sup> ~~FORTE~~ VERIFIED. INTERVIEW WITH BLACK CONTINUED THIS DATE. BLACK SPENT NIGHT IN COMPANY OF AGENTS AT THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOTEL. ATE BREAKFAST WITH AGENTS IN ROOM. BLACK AMPLIFIED PREVIOUS INFORMATION AND ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO SECURE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE OF ESPIONAGE VIOLATION, WITHOUT SUCCESS. BLACK STATED THAT HE WAS APPROACHED IN THIRTYFIVE TO GO TO CALIFORNIA/TECH AND STUDY FOR A DOCTOR'S DEGREE. HIS EXPENSES WERE TO BE PAID BY THE SOVIETS. BLACK CLAIMS THAT HE TURNED DOWN THIS OFFER BECAUSE HE DESIRED TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS THEN. HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY HARRY GOLD THAT GOLD'S EXPENSES WERE PAID BY THE SOVIETS FOR HIS ATTENDANCE AT KAVIER UNIVERSITY. HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS DID NOT PAY GOLD THE FULL AMOUNT EXPECTED. GOLD HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GO TO SCHOOL IN CINCINNATI, OHIO, SO THAT HE COULD CONTACT AN INDIVIDUAL THAT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED BY THE SOVIETS. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS DESCRIBED AS BEING AN MIT GRADUATE WHO, WHILE THERE, HAD TUTORED A SOVIET NATIONAL AND WAS SUPPOSED TO FURNISH INFO TO AN AMERICAN. ~~THIS UNDOUBTEDLY REFERS TO BENJAMIN SMILG.~~ CONTACT. BLACK ADVISED THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS ATTENDING CALIF. TECH

WOULD BE TO HANDLE SOMEONE AND ACT AS A COURIER. BLACK STATED THAT HE WAS GIVEN IN THIRTYFIVE BY PETERSEN A CONTAX CAMERA. BLACK ALREADY KNEW HOW TO OPERATE THIS CAMERA FOR DOCUMENT WORK. THE CAMERA WAS GIVEN TO HIM SO THAT HE COULD PHOTO COPY INFO THAT HE WAS TO GET FROM HIS CONTACTS.

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 209 M

Per [Signature]

Let's  
get the  
camera,  
if we  
can.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-----

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE TWO

HE WAS LATER INSTRUCTED TO USE IT TO GET PICTURES OF TROTSKITES. IN  
FORTIETH HIS SOVIET CONTACT, JACK, TOOK CAMERA BACK FOR TWO MONTHS AND  
LATER RETURNED IT TO HIM. IN FORTIETH HE USED THIS CAMERA TO PHOTO  
COPY THREE BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON PENICILLIN. THE PRESENT CAMERA IS A MODEL  
TWO WHICH BLACK SECURED IN AN EXCHANGE FOR THE MODEL NO. THREE CAMERA  
ORIGINALLY GIVEN TO HIM BY PETERSEN. BLACK HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN CERTAIN  
LABORATORY EQUIPMENT AND BOOKS BY THE SOVIETS AS REWARD FOR WORK TO BE  
DONE BY HIM. BLACK STILL MAINTAINS THAT HE DID NOT ACT AS A COURIER FOR  
THE SOVIETS EXCEPT IN TWO INSTANCES, ONE HIS VISIT TO DR. FLOWSDORFF IN  
PHILA., AT WHICH TIME BLACK USED THE NAME OF GEORGE WILLIAMS. NOTHING  
WAS SECURED FROM FLOWSDORFF. IN FORTIETH HE HAD DEALINGS WITH  
INDIVIDUAL FROM MERCULES IN WILMINGTON, WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS WILLIAM  
STAPLER. IN FORTIETH JACK INTRODUCED BLACK TO WILLIAM STAPLER IN NEW  
YORK CITY. BLACK WAS INSTRUCTED TO MEET STAPLER AT THE PENNSYLVANIA  
STATION IN NEWARK, N.J. BLACK WAS USING THE NAME OF, QUOTE, BOB, UNQUOTE.  
BLACK STATED THAT STAPLER'S WIFE KNEW THAT STAPLER WAS INVOLVED IN  
FURNISHING INFO TO THE SOVIETS, AND CONTACT WAS MADE WITH STAPLER THRU  
HIS WIFE. IT WAS SUGGESTED FOR BLACK TO CALL STAPLER'S WIFE DURING THE  
WEEK AND SHE WOULD ARRANGE A MEETING WITH STAPLER AND BLACK AT THE PENNA.  
RR STATION IN NEWARK, N.J. BLACK MAINTAINS STAPLER NEVER FURNISHED INFO  
TO HIM FOR TRANSMISSION TO SOVIETS. STAPLER FURNISHED TO BLACK FOR HIS  
PERSONAL USE SAMPLE OF PURE ROSIN AND LITERATURE PUT OUT BY MERCULES.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE THREE

FURNISHED BY BALT. FROM HERCULES RECOR  
BLACK IDENTIFIED PHOTOGRAPH OF WILLIAM STAPLER AS BEING THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM  
HE WOULD MEET WITH IN FLER STATION, NEWARK, N.J. BLACK ADMITS MEETING  
STAPLER ON THREE OCCASIONS. BLACK ADMITS IN THIRTYFOUR FURNISHING DETAILS  
OF PROCESSES EMPLOYED BY NOPCO TO HIS SOVIET SUPERIOR. THESE PROCESSES  
DEALT WITH THE SULFAMATION OF OILS, TEXTILE SPECIALTIES, AND LEATHER OILS.  
BLACK FURNISHED ALL MATERIAL FROM NOPCO THAT WAS AVAILABLE TO HIM. BLACK  
ADVISED IN THIRTYFOUR HARRY BROUGHT INDIVIDUAL NAMED JOSEPH BRODSKY TO  
HIS APARTMENT IN NEWARK AND INTRODUCED HIM TO BLACK AS AN INDIVIDUAL THAT  
GOLD WAS RECRUITING INTO SOVIET ESPIONAGE. BLACK SUBMITTED REPORT ON  
BRODSKY TO HIS SUPERIORS NOT RECOMMENDING BRODSKY. BRODSKY HAS BEEN  
IDENTIFIED AS BEING IDENTICAL WITH JACK BRAUN, ~~PRESENTLY~~ SUBJECT OF  
BLACK IDENTIFIED PHOTO OF BRAUN AS BRODSKY.  
SECURITY INVESTIGATION, PHILA. OFFICE. BLACK STATED THAT IN THIRTYFIVE  
PETERSEN, HIS SOVIET AGENT, OFFERED TO SET HIM UP IN A COVER BUSINESS  
AND TOLD BLACK IT DID NOT MATTER IF HE MADE ANY MONEY OR NOT. JACK,  
ANOTHER SOVIET SUPERIOR, OFFERED TO BUY BLACK A CAR. IN THIRTYFIVE AND  
THIRTYSIX BLACK PRESSURED BY PETERSEN, HIS SOVIET SUPERIOR, TO MAKE  
CONTACTS AND SECURE INFO REGARDING OTHER INDUSTRIAL PLANTS. BLACK MAINTAINS  
HE DID NOT PERFORM SUCH WORK AND WAS THEN REQUESTED BY PETERSEN TO APPLY  
FOR WORK AT VARIOUS CHEMICAL PLANTS. BLACK ADMITTED RECRUITING HARRY GOLD  
IN SOVIET ESPIONAGE, AND ADMITTED INTRODUCING GOLD TO PAUL PETERSEN IN  
NEW YORK CITY. BLACK ADMITTED THAT IN FORTYFIVE HE FURNISHED SOVIETS A  
SAMPLE OF SORBITOL, WHICH IS THE BASE FOR ASCORBIC ACID (VITAMIN C). IN

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE FOUR

ADDITION TO THIS SAMPLE HE FURNISHED THEM HIS PROCESS, WHICH HE HAD DEVELOPED IN THEORY. THE SAMPLE WAS A CULTURE PURCHASED FROM THE AMERICAN TYPE CULTURE COLLECTION, WASH., D.C. BLACK ADMITTED TRAVELING IN THIRTY-NINE TO NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE ON BEHALF OF NOPCO TO VISIT A RAYON COMPANY THERE. CLAIMS WENT ON NOPCO BUSINESS. A MR. ROBINSON, OF NOPCO CO., *CA* VERIFIED PURPOSE OF TRIP AS BEING ON COMPANY BUSINESS. THEN WENT TO WASH., D.C. TO CONFER WITH A DR. CHARLES SANDO REGARDING EMBEDDING OF FILMS IN PLEXIGLASS BUT GOT NO INFO FROM SANDO. BLACK HAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED HIS RUSSIAN CONTACT <sup>*FROM PHOTO*</sup> JACK AS BEING JOSEPH KATZ, ON WHOM BUREAU HAS INFO OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE. BLACK MAINTAINED THAT HE LAST SAW KATZ IN MAY OR JUNE OF FORTYEIGHT IN FRONT OF MACY'S IN NYC, WHERE THEY MET IN RESPONSE TO A PRIOR TELEPHONE CALL. BLACK ADVISES THAT HIS ENTIRE STORY OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE UP UNTIL FORTYFOUR CAN BE VERIFIED BY VERA KANE, NYC, SINCE IT WAS AT HER APARTMENT THAT HE AND HELLER DECIDED TO GO TO AMTORG. KANE TYPED UP BLACK'S NOPCO REPORTS FOR AMTORG. BLACK ALSO DISCUSSED WITH KANE THE REQUEST OF SCHWARTZ THAT BLACK GO TO MEXICO CITY TO JOIN TROTSKY'S HOUSEHOLD. BLACK CLAIMS THAT KANE CAN VERIFY HIS RELUCTANCE TO DEAL WITH SOVIET AGENTS EXCEPT ON A LEGAL, CONSULTING BASIS UP TO FORTYFOUR. BALTIMORE ADVISED THAT WILLIAM W. STAPLER, A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF HERCULES AT WILMINGTON, DEL. IS NOW DECEASED. STAPLER'S WIFE, ETHEL MAY STAPLER, LAST KNOWN TO RESIDE RIVERDALE, MORRIS CO., N.J.

NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD CONTACT ETHEL MAY STAPLER FOR ALL INFO SHE MAY HAVE

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Transmit the following Teletype message to:

PAGE FIVE

.9230 VOLUNTARY SEARCH OF LATE HUSBAND'S EFFECTS  
REGARDING SUBJECT AND HER HUSBAND'S ACTIVITIES. A CUB IS REPORTED TO HAVE DESIRE  
KNOWLEDGE OF HER HUSBAND'S COMPLICITY IN RUSSIAN ESPIONAGE. ALSO INTERVIEW  
ROBINSON OF MOPCO TO VERIFY SUBJECT'S STORY. NEW YORK OFFICE SHOULD  
INTERVIEW VERA KANE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRIOR TELEPHONE CALLS. BALTIMORE  
OFFICE SHOULD ASCERTAIN NATURE OF INFO AVAILABLE TO WILLIAM STAPLER AT  
HERCULES, WILMINGTON, DEL. INTERVIEW WITH BLACK TERMINATED AT SEVEN PM  
TODAY. BLACK TAKEN TO HIS HOME BY AGENTS. SURVEILLANCE ON BLACK  
CONTINUING. BLACK REPORTED THAT HE WILL PROBABLY LEAVE PHILA. TONIGHT  
FOR WASHINGTON, D.C., WHERE HE ANTICIPATES SPENDING THE WEEKEND, RETURNING  
TO PHILA. LATE SUNDAY NIGHT.

CORNELIUS

END

WBR:HEMcG

65-4332

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ROBERT W. HOLMES

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/15/50

On 6/14/50 SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR., and the writer interviewed JOHN J. McADAMS, SA, THE YELLOW CAB COMPANY, Philadelphia, at his office, Broad and Spring Garden Streets, Philadelphia.

MR. McADAMS furnished to the interviewing Agents two photostatic copies of the waybill of Cab No. 657 on 6/9/50. He advised that the original of this waybill is being maintained by the YELLOW CAB COMPANY's Waybill Department, and can be identified for the purpose of a subpoena as being Waybill of Cab No. 657 for 6/5/50, Locust Garage, Driver HARRY ROSEN, Seniority No. 42E31A. Authorization was also secured from MR. McADAMS for the Agents to interview HARRY ROSEN.

On 6/14/50 the same Agents interviewed and secured a statement from HARRY ROSEN, of 2503 North Douglas Street, Philadelphia. This statement relates the circumstances of ROSEN'S trip between 9:45 and 10:30 a.m. from the BELLEVUE STRATFORD HOTEL to 199 West Chew Avenue, with a stopover at 5th and Berks Streets. ROSEN identified the photostatic copy of his waybill for that date and also identified a photograph of THOMAS BLACK as the person with whom his fare hold a short conversation at the corner of 5th and Berks Streets.

The signed statement, the photostatic copies of the waybill and the photograph of BLACK, with ROSEN'S signature on it, are being made exhibits in this file.

RWH:MLL

65-4332

cc 65- 4348

(FERDINAND P. HELLER)

see 65-4332-1-B-1-(2)

65-4332-154

NY, Newark

June 15, 1950

NY, Philadelphia

THOMAS E. LACK, AS  
DEPOSED - R

Enclosed herewith are two forms FD-20 (Consent to Search) dated June 15, 1950 at Philadelphia. One is the authorization as signed by the subject for search of his property in storage at the VAN METER STORAGE SERVICE, 92 Howard Street, Newark, New Jersey. The other is a consent to search to include the premises and files, laboratory equipment, and literature belonging to THOMAS E. LACK at the ROBERT CHRISTIAN CLOTHING, 177 E. Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey.

ENCLOSURE  
65-4332

ENCLOSURE

RECEIVED MAIL

Reg #479344

65-4332-156

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : JOHN A. HENNINGSTADT, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 15, 1950

On 6/14/50, JAMES EDWARD BROWN, Supervisor, Ruth Street Shop, Yellow Rental, Inc., 2751 Kensington Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., advised that on three different occasions a truck was rented in the name of the Spruce Chemical Company, 3357 Miller Street, Philadelphia, Pa., in order to move that organization to Paterson, New Jersey. Mr. BROWN could not recall the exact address in Paterson, New Jersey, but believed it was 177 East Railway Avenue.

Mr. BROWN advised that on the first occasion, an individual by the name of JACK FASS, one of the owners of the Spruce Chemical Company, made arrangements to rent a truck. FASS stated that he needed a driver and asked BROWN if he would drive the truck for him. BROWN said that because the trip to Paterson, New Jersey, was to be made on Sunday, which was his day off, he told FASS he would drive the truck if FASS would meet his price. BROWN stated that FASS paid him \$15.00, plus road expenses which included meals, etc. FASS rented a 2-ton truck at 9:36 a.m. on 4/29/50, and returned it at 5:43 p.m. on 4/30/50. A deposit of \$50 was made and the total bill for the rental of the truck amounted to \$30.38 which was deducted from the deposit.

An individual by the name of JOE A. MULLEN, 6716 North 8th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., signed a bill for the rental of the truck. BROWN said that FASS loaded the truck on 4/29/50, and that the trip to Paterson, New Jersey, was made on Sunday, 4/30/50.

BROWN stated that when they arrived in Paterson, New Jersey, FASS' father and brother, SEYMOUR, helped unload the truck. FASS' father and brother live somewhere in Brooklyn. FASS told BROWN that he would also reside with his parents, and commute between Paterson and Brooklyn daily.

JAH/jss  
65-4332

65-4332-157

SAC

On the second occasion the Spruce Chemical Company rented a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck at 8:35 a.m. on 5/2/50, and returned it at 8:47 p.m. the same day. A deposit of \$40.00 was made. The total amount of the rental came to \$20.42, and the balance of the deposit was refunded. The driver was indicated to be ALPHONSO MC INTOCH. BROWN said that he was working on 5/2/50 and could not drive, but stated that ALPHONSO MC INTOCH, an employee of the Yellow Cab Company in Philadelphia, drove that day since it was his day off. MC INTOCH (colored) was obtained through FASS' uncle, who is also an employee of the Yellow Cab Company in Philadelphia.

On the third occasion the Spruce Chemical Company rented a  $3/4$ -ton truck at 7:32 p.m. on 5/27/50, and returned it at 2:25 p.m. on 5/28/50. A deposit of \$50.00 was made. The total amount of the rental came to \$17.50, and the balance of the deposit was refunded. BROWN said that he drove the truck again on 5/28/50, and was paid \$15.00 and road expenses. On this occasion an individual by the name of TOM (last name unknown) rode to Paterson, New Jersey, with BROWN. BROWN described TOM as being about 5' 8", 175 lbs., heavy build, curly or wavy blond or sandy colored hair, medium complexion, wearing glasses, and using a cigarette holder. According to BROWN, it was necessary to go to TOM's apartment at 1929 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, and pick up some additional equipment to be used by the Spruce Chemical Company in Paterson, New Jersey. BROWN stated that among the equipment was a scale which TOM said was used to measure chemicals and was very delicate.

TOM indicated that he worked in the vicinity of his residence at 1929 North 6th Street, and that he was going to quit his job this fall, and move to Paterson, New Jersey, to work for the Spruce Chemical Company.

BROWN stated he received the impression that the Spruce Chemical Company was owned by JACK FASS, JOE A. MULLEN, and TOM. He added that as best as he could recall the Spruce Chemical Company made soap, dyes, and insecticides.

BROWN indicated that <sup>MULLEN</sup>MULLEN is a salesman for some leather manufacturing company. MULLEN, while traveling for the leather manufacturing company, also plugs the products of the Spruce Chemical Company.

SAC

The new building of the Spruce Chemical Company in Paterson, New Jersey, was built by a contractor named ZEIGLER. BROWN also added that an individual by the name of DITMAN was apparently associated with PASS.

According to BROWN, TOM returned to the Yellow Rental Agency on May 30 or 31, 1950, and picked up the balance of the deposit for the trip made on May 28, 1950.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOSEPH A. DUFFY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 15, 1950

On June 14, 1950, the surveillance on subject was resumed by SA ROBERT W. GRANT and the writer at his residence, 1929 North Sixth Street, at 6:23 a.m.

7:22 a.m. Subject departed residence and walked toward Berg Laboratories.

7:26 a.m. Entered Berg Laboratories, 1327 North Fifth Street.

7:32 a.m. Crossed Fifth Street and Germantown Avenue to H. L. Luncheonette, 1822 Germantown Avenue.

7:47 a.m. Returned to Berg Laboratories.

7:48 a.m. Departed Berg Laboratories and proceeded north to Hutt's Dairies, corner Fifth and Berks Streets.

7:49 a.m. Entered Hutt's Dairies.

8:01 a.m. Departed Hutt's Dairies with quart bottle of milk.

8:02 a.m. Re-entered Berg Laboratories.

8:50 a.m. Surveillance was joined by SAs GORDON E. FLANNERY and W. C. WITCHELL.

10:33 a.m. Departed Berg Laboratories and walked toward residence.

10:34 a.m. Entered residence, 1929 North Sixth Street.

10:43 a.m. Departed residence.

10:45 a.m. Re-entered Berg Laboratories.

12:08 p.m. Appeared at front of laboratories with large, brown, manilla envelope with white address sticker, contents unknown, where he stood and conversed with other Berg personnel.

12:16 p.m. Departed Berg Laboratories still carrying envelope in approximately 1938 DeSoto, four door, black sedan, 1950 Pennsylvania License #54HZ9, with a man who arrived in front of laboratories at 12:14 p.m. The DeSoto automobile had a

65-4332-158

65-4332-1-B-1(3)

JES:ADE  
65-4332

check Schultz

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
JUN 16 1950  
FBI - PHOENIX



100-4446

Memorandum

- June 15, 1950

Keystone Automobile Club emblem on the rear above license plate. It was subsequently determined the above license number was issued to ALVIN W. SCHUSTER, 4515 Pine Street, Philadelphia.

12:30 p.m. Subject and unknown man entered South Broad Cleaners, 211 South Broad Street. It is believed that the envelope may have been left at this address inasmuch as subject apparently did not have it later when he departed.

12:46 p.m. Went to rear of cleaning establishment with driver of DeSoto and an unknown man who appeared to be the operator of South Broad Cleaners. The following is an approximate description of the unknown man, who is believed to be the operator of the South Broad Cleaners, which was taken from observation of him:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Height:          | 5' 6"   |
| Weight:          | 140 to 145  |
| Hair:            | Straight, black                                     |
| Age:             | 30 to 35  |
| Complexion:      | Dark  |
| Build:           | Slender   |
| Characteristics: | Dark, heavy eyebrows; thin face; heavy, dark beard. |

1:15 p.m. Subject, driver of DeSoto automobile, and other unknown man drove street to Gormans Luncheonette and Cafeteria, southeast corner Broad and Spruce Streets.

2:06 p.m. Subject and the two men returned to South Broad Cleaners.

2:13 p.m. The three men came out of cleaners with what appeared to be a magazine which they appeared to be discussing.

2:12 p.m. Subject departed walking north on Broad Street and proceeded to Chestnut Street.

2:24 p.m. Boarded eastbound streetcar, corner Broad and Chestnut Streets.

2:33 p.m. Departed streetcar at Fifth and Chestnut Streets.

Memorandum

June 15, 1950

- 2:30 p.m. Walked east to Fourth and Chestnut Streets. Between Fifth and Fourth Streets subject turned around once and looked back toward Fifth Street, then turned back and walked a few feet farther east where he stepped into a doorway and stood for a short time. At corner of Fourth and Chestnut Streets subject turned right and walked toward Walnut Street.
- 2:35 p.m. Arrived at corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets and stood at corner.
- 2:38 p.m. Turned west on Walnut Street and walked to front steps of a large insurance building located at the corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets. Subject walked up steps to a large pillar in front of building where he stood a short time.
- 2:42 p.m. Returned to corner Fourth and Walnut Streets and stood facing south at the curb.
- 2:44 p.m. Crossed Fourth Street to northeast corner, then returned to northwest corner where he stood looking first up and down Fourth Street and then up and down Walnut Street.

In view of the above activities of subject, after arriving at the vicinity of Fourth and Chestnut Streets, it appeared that he was using evasive tactics, and the surveillance was discontinued by the writer to avoid being detected.

- 3:46 p.m. The writer was advised by SA GORDON E. PLAYMAN that subject had returned to the Borg Laboratories at 3:45 p.m.

After the unidentified man, driving the black DeSoto, and the subject separated at 2:42 p.m., the unknown man stayed in front of the South Broad Building, 301 South Broad Street, until 2:52 p.m.

- 2:52 p.m. The unknown man went into the Sandwich Shop at the southeast corner of Spruce and Broad Streets and made a telephone call.

Memorandum

June 15, 1950

2:37 p.m. The unknown man entered his Datsun automobile, drove to the 100 block of North Broad Street where he made a "U" turn at the corner of Broad and Cherry Streets, and parked his car on the east side of Broad Street. Due to difficulties in parking the Bureau cars driven by SAs RICHARD L. GANN and RICHARD MITCHELL, the unknown man was not seen entering any building on Broad Street. However, his car was kept under surveillance until 4:15 p.m. when SAs MITCHELL and GANN were relieved by SAs WILLIAM G. CURRALL and ALFRED F. HILLEBERG.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. PHILIP KOCHENBERGER

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
IS. JOLAGE - R

DATE: 6/15/50

Acting on instructions of SAC CORNELIUS, the writer telephonically contacted the Newark Office at 8:00 p.m., June 15, 1950, and requested to speak to SA FRANK L. RAISBECK. RAISBECK was not expected at the office for approximately thirty minutes, and the agent on duty, J. P. MINES was given information concerning the above-captioned case. He was informed that investigation conducted up to the present time concerning BLACK'S background had been discreet and that it was desired that further immediate investigation be conducted in an open manner. It was requested that immediate interviews be conducted with the following individuals:

ERNEST SEGISSEMAN  
165 12th Street  
Wood-Ridge, New Jersey

or

4 Lexington Street  
Newark, New Jersey

It was pointed out that SEGISSEMAN had been an associate of BLACK and that he had resided with BLACK from 1933 to 1937, at CHELLIS-AUSTIN APARTMENTS, Newark, and that he was Vice-president of FINE CHEMICS COMPANY. It was pointed out that the interview of SEGISSEMAN was deemed to be the most valuable currently known to the Philadelphia Office.

P. A. DITTMAN  
177 East Railway Avenue  
Paterson, New Jersey  
(an associate of BLACK through the  
SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY, Paterson, N. J.)

JPK:MLL  
65-4332

65-4332-159

Recd

RECEIVED  
HINES SAC, 6/15/50  
65-1332

GOTTFRIED ZINGLER  
535 Lexington Avenue  
Clifton, New Jersey  
(another associate of BLACK, inasmuch as he  
had been the constructor of the STRUCE CHEMICAL  
COMPANY plant)

THOMAS FUESS  
(an employee of the JOHNS-MANVILLE COMPANY,  
Manville, New Jersey, and a friend of the  
Subject from 1929 to 1930)

DR. BERNARD A. O'CONNOR  
314 North 4th Street  
Harrison, New Jersey  
(this individual was the attending physician  
during treatment for burns suffered by BLACK.  
It was mentioned to HINES that a lead to  
interview this individual had been set out in  
a Newark report on BLACK)

A neighborhood investigation at 128 Corbin Street, Jersey  
City, New Jersey, was requested to determine if GOLD lived there with  
BLACK in 1932. It was pointed out that this neighborhood investigation  
could be conducted on June 16, 1950, but it was stressed that the inter-  
view of the individuals mentioned above was desired immediately, with  
SEGESSMAN having preference, the order of interview of the other be-  
ing left to the discretion of the Newark Office.

It was also pointed out to HINES that BLACK was currently being  
interviewed and would be interviewed during the evening of June 15, and  
that he was not believed to be telling the truth. Any information  
immediately available might be extremely valuable in conducting the  
interview with BLACK. It was mentioned that this office was interested  
in the activities and contacts with Russians and Communists which have  
been had by BLACK and any other information that could be obtained.

HINES was also informed that authorizations to search premises

MEMO SAC, 6/15/50  
65-1332

located in Newark and Paterson had been signed by BLACK and had been forwarded via Registered Mail to the Newark Office. It was requested that these waivers of search be executed as soon as possible after their receipt, and that this office be immediately informed as to the results.

Newark was also requested to develop any other interviews or investigation which would logically be conducted and that the same should be done as soon as possible, with Newark exercising their discretion as to preference and order of investigation.

ASAC WHELAN, of the NYC, was called at 8:11 p.m., on June 15, 1950, and informed that immediate investigation in the BLACK case was desired. WHELAN turned the call over to Supervisor GRANVILLE, and the same instructions concerning immediate and open interviews regarding activities and contacts, etc., and the reason therefor as had been given to the Newark Office, were reiterated to him.

The list of names supplied is as follows:

ASSOCIATE AT SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY

JACOB ISRAEL FASS, aka "Jack"  
367 Miller Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York

It was pointed out that this was a current address and that this appeared to be the most important interview at the moment.

ASSOCIATES AT FINE ORGANICS COMPANY

HARRY D. LEISLICH  
Hotel Saint George  
Brooklyn, New York

THEODORE NESS  
71 West 12th Street  
New York City

MEMO SAC, 6/15/50  
65-1332

HENRIETTA WALDMAN  
753 Miller Avenue  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

FUTTA LEBOS  
2280 Andrews Avenue  
New York City

NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR  
141 East 88th Street  
New York City

ALICE MOLNAR  
141 East 83th Street  
New York City

SEYM SINGER  
331 East 74th Street  
New York City

GRANVILLE was requested to have immediate interviews conducted with these individuals and also any other interviews and investigation felt desirable by the NYC. It was pointed out that the order of interview and investigation would be left to the discretion of that office.

GRANVILLE then stated there were difficulties in such rush interviews and that they could not be other than general and similar to an applicant-type of interview, inasmuch as New York did not have the results of the interview with BLACK as yet. He pointed out that the persons being interviewed might possibly be agents, themselves. He further stated that it would be necessary to properly brief the men who would conduct the interviews, and that it would be at least ten p.m. before the interviews could be started. He was advised to use his discretion as to when the interviews should be conducted, but the urgent need for the results thereof was stressed and immediate advice concerning these results was requested upon being obtained by them. It was pointed out that it was believed that BLACK was not

MEMO SAC, 6/15/50  
65-4332

telling the truth and that any information obtained might be of immediate value in the interview.

Inquiry was made by GRANVILLE as to whether a description had been obtained of the Russian contact known as "Bill." SA HOWARD A. SEARL, who was with the writer at this time, advised that contact by "BILL" with BLACK had been made by telephone, and that BLACK had supplied no description other than to state the "BILL" was a Czechoslovakian.

*Black later said that he made a mistake  
that this man is "Jack"*



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 6/15/50

65-4332

65-4332-160

SAC, BELMONT

6/16/50

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

THOMAS L. WILSON, was.,  
ESPIONAGE - R

Enclosed herewith is a supplemental authorization of search, as signed by the subject, permitting the FBI to use as many additional Special Agents as needed in conducting the search of the subject's property stored at 92 Howard Street, Newark, New Jersey.

THW/tgm  
65-4332

Enclosure

REGISTERED MAIL, # 478 352/  
SPECIAL DELIVERY,  
LETTER REQUEST REGISTERED

65-4332-164

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : HOWARD A. SMITH, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS. -  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

On June 16, 1950, Mr. WALTER ALKUS, part owner of the CHARLES E. BERG LABORATORIES, 1327 North 5th Street, telephonically advised that the above subject had, in 1945 or 1946, lived for a period of six months with a family known as HINKLE, who resided in the vicinity of 3900 block of Germantown Avenue in Philadelphia. ALKUS was unable to provide further details except to advise that the HINKLE residence was not on Germantown Avenue but was approximately one block off of that street.

Mr. ALKUS advised that he was willing to provide any information he might have concerning BLACK, stating that his one desire was that the name of the concern, i.e., CHARLES E. BERG LABORATORIES, not be brought out in the newspapers with unfavorable publicity. The writer made no promises.

It is to be pointed out that ALKUS was not previously contacted concerning the subject in that all contacts had been made through Mr. CHARLES E. BERG, Senior partner of the laboratories, and who has been cooperative.

A check of the indices of the Philadelphia Office reflected no record of WALTER ALKUS, whose home address is 8224 Williams Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., and his telephone number is Wissahickon 7-2255.

HAS:MEMCG  
65-4332

65-4332-167

Welle

FILE DESCRIPTION

PHILADELPHIA FILE

SUBJECT THOMAS L. BLACK

FILE NO. 65-4332

VOLUME NO. 4

SERIALS 171

to

259

## **NOTICE**

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46

VOLUME 4File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from)     | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 171    | 6/17/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NK                | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 172    | 6/17/50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK<br>capt "Abraham Brethman" | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 100-365040 Serial 140   |
| 173    | 6/17/50 | PH teletype to HQ, AG, CG, NY<br>capt "Harry Gold"   | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-57449  |
| 174    | 6/17/50 | NK teletype to HQ, PH                                | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 175    | 6/16/50 | HQ lab letter to NK                                  | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 176    | 6/17/50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                            | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 177    | 6/17/50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                            | 4            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 178    | 6/17/50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                            | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 179    | 6/17/50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH                                | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 180    | 6/17/50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY<br>capt 3rd party              | 4            | 0        | See PH 65-4307   |
| 181    | 6/17/50 | NY, NK<br>AT teletype to HQ, WFO, PH,                | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 182    | 6/17/50 | NY, PH<br>AL teletype to HQ, WFO, NK,                | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |

VOLUME 4File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from)         | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 183    | 6/17/50 | NY, NK<br>MI teletype to HQ, WFO, PH                     | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 184    | 6/18/50 | PH<br>NK teletype to HQ, WFO, NY                         | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 185    | 6/18/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 186    | 6/18/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                | 3            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 187    | 6/18/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, WFO, NY               | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 188    | 6/18/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, BS                    | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 189    | 6/18/50 | PH teletype to HQ, SE                                    | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 190    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 191    | 6/18/50 | NK teletype to HQ, WFO, NY<br>PH capt "Abraham Brothman" | 5            | 0        | See Bufile 100-365040  |
| 192    | 6/19/50 | NK teletype to HQ, PH, AL                                | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 193    | 6/18/50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 194    | 6/19/50 | RH teletype to PH  | 1            | 1        |  |

VOLUME 4File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 195    | 6/19/50 | BS teletype to HQ, PH                            | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 196    | 6/19/50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                        | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 197    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        |  |
| 198    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        |  |
| 199    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        |  |
| 200    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        |  |
| 201    | 6/16/50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        |  |
| 202    | 6/16/50 | SA memo to SAC                                   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 203    | 6/16/50 | SA memo to SAC                                   | 2            | 2        |  |
| 204    | 6/16/50 | SA memo to SAC                                   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 205    | 6/18/50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH <sup>BA</sup>          | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 206    | 6/16/50 | NY letter to HQ                                  | 4            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |



VOLUME 4File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 207    | 6/20/50 | NK teletype to HQ, PH, NY                        | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 208    | 6/17/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 209    | 6/19/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to BS                | 1            | 1        |  |
| 210    | 6/19/50 | AL teletype to PH                                | 1            | 1        |  |
| 211    | 6/19/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY            | 2            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 212    | 6/19/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY            | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 213    | 6/19/50 | (typed copy) SL, NY<br>PH teletype to HQ, AL, BA | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 214    | 7/25/50 | charge-out slip                                  | 1            | 1        |  |
| 215    | 6/19/50 | PH, BA<br>NK teletype to HQ, NY,                 | 5            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 216    | 6/19/50 | WFO teletype to PH, NY                           | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 217    | 6/19/50 | NY teletype to HQ, WFO, PH                       | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 218    | 6/19/50 | CG teletype to HQ, NY, PH<br>Capt Harry Gold     | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-57449  |

VOLUME 4File No: 65-4332Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 219    | 6/20/50 | BU teletype to PH                                | 1            | 1        |  |
| 220    | 6/19/50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                        | 6            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 221    | 6/20/50 | (typed copy) NK<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY, BA     | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 222    | 6/20/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 3            | 3        |  |
| 223    | 6/19/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        |  |
| 224    | 6/20/50 | SA to SAC <sup>w/ copy</sup> memo                | 2/2          | 2/2      | dups - 2   |
| 225    | 6/15/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 4            | 4        |  |
| 226    | 6/20/50 | BA<br>NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                  | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 227    | 6/20/50 | (typed copy)<br>PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY        | 9            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 228    | 6/21/50 | BA teletype to HQ, NK, PH                        | 2            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 229    | 6/19/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        |  |
| 230    | 6/19/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        |  |

VOLUME

4

File No: 65-4332Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 231    | 6/20/50 | AQ teletype to HQ, PH,<br>NY capt "Harry Gold"   | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-57449  |
| 232    | 6/20/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 3            | 3        |  |
| 233    | 6/20/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 4            | 0        | REFERRAL   |
| 234    | 6/20/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        |  |
| 235    | 6/20/50 | WFO<br>AL teletype to HQ, PH                     | 3            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 236    | 6/20/50 | HQ teletype to PH, NY                            | 3            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 237    | 6/20/50 | PH<br>NY teletype to HQ, WFO                     | 2            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 238    | 6/21/50 | (typical copy) NK<br>PH teletype to HQ, NY       | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 239    | 6/21/50 | NY<br>NK teletype to HQ, PH                      | 3            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 240    | 6/26/50 | charge out slip                                  | 1            | 1        |  |
| 241    | 6/21/50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 242    | 6/21/50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                        | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |

File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from)    | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|---|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |   | Actual       | Released |  |
| 243    | 6/2/50  | BA teletype to <sup>PH</sup> HQ, NY, NK             | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 244    | 6/2/50  | RH teletype to PH                                   | 1            | 1        |  |
| 245    | 6/22/50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                           | 2            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 246    | 6/22/50 | HQ teletype to NY, PH                               | 1            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |
| 247    | 6/22/50 | SL teletype to HQ, PH                               | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 248    | 6/21/50 | NK to PH letter                                     | 2            | 0        | see NK file 65-4074  |
| 249    | 6/21/50 | NY letter to HQ                                     | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 250    | 6/24/50 | PH teletype to NY, <sup>HQ</sup> NK                 | 1            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 251    | 6/31/50 | Bu report to HQ                                     | 2            | 0        | see Bufile 65-59181  |
| 252    | undated | <sup>capt 3rd party</sup> PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY | 5            | 5        |  |
| 253    | 6/19/50 | <sup>capt 3rd party</sup> PH teletype to NY, NK     | 2            | 0        | See PH 65-4307   |
| 254    | 6/22/50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                           | 6            | 0        | See Bufile 65-59181  |

File No: 65-4332

Re: Thomas L. Black

[illegible]

Mr.

June 16, 1950

ASAC, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

RE: ALVIN K. BARKER  
RE: T. J. (K)

I called Mr. C. E. WATSON of the Bureau 6/16/50 and advised him that the interview with "K" was still going on, but that he had not as yet furnished information relative to any violations of the no contact provision within the bounds of limitations, although he had furnished information which brought him very close to the line.

I advised him that it was believed desirable to interview WATSON at this time, and he stated it was satisfactory to go ahead and do this. I told him we would advise before we arranged the search of WATSON's home, but that this would definitely be kept in mind.

AS/ SM

65-4332

cc WATSON L. W. R. FILE

65-4348

65-4332-190

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |     |
| JUN 16 1950        |     |
|                    | LSM |

Searched

Serialized

FBI RICHMOND 6-19-50 4-16 PM GL  
SAC PHILADELPHIA URGENT  
THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP I R. RECORDS U. OF VA., CHARLOTTESVILLE  
REFLECT FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER BORN DECEMBER TWELVE FIFTEEN NAUGHT  
SEVEN PHILADELPHIA. ENTERED U. OF VA. AS GRADUATE STUDENT JANUARY  
EIGHT THIRTY. TOOK TWO COURSES IN CHEMISTRY. PREVIOUSLY EARNED  
B. S. DEGREE PENN STATE. HOME ADDRESS GVXX GIVEN BOX FOUR NINE ONE FIVE  
IN CARE OF C. COHERTY, CLARENDON, VIRGINIA AT TIME OF ENRANCE.  
NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RECORDS COLLEGE ANNUAL FOR YEAR  
THIRTYTHIRTYONE. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAD NO CONTACT WITH HELLER.  
NO RECORD CHARLOTTESVILLE PD OR CREDIT BUREAU. INVESTIGATION CON-  
TINUING AT CLARENDON.

AUERBACH

END

OF FBI PH LPM

V

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

*original in*  
*65-4348*

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
JUN 21 1950  
FBI - PHILADELPHIA

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : File

FROM : SAC A. CORNELIUS, JR.

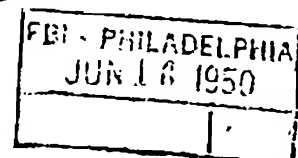
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
LOPIGIAL (R)

DATE: June 16, 1950

I talked to Mr. S. K. MC KEE of the Newark Office at his home 8 p.m., 6/15/50, and advised him that the identity of two additional Agents who should be named in the Consent to Search signed by BLACK for a storage warehouse at or near Newark, N. J., was needed. He stated that the same two Agents should be used who would be searching the premises at Paterson. I told Mr. MC KEE I felt these two searches should be made as soon as possible, and I felt it would be desirable for additional Agents to be designated in order that this could be handled expeditiously inasmuch as BLACK was in the office at that time. MC KEE stated he desired to use the same two Agents. I told him that this was up to him; that my suggestion would be that he use additional Agents.

AC: - 3  
65-4332

65-4332-197





June 15, 1950

101

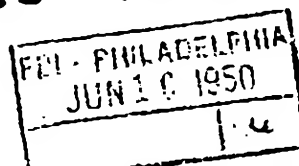
W. A. WATKINS, JR.

THOMAS J. LACK  
PHILADELPHIA (2)

On 6/15/50 I talked to Mr. S. K. MC NEIL, SAC, Newark, and asked him for the identity of two Agents to search the premises of the Spruce Chemical Company in accordance with the Consent to Search obtained from LACK. This was necessary to incorporate in the body of the Consent to Search form. Mr. MC NEIL stated the Agents would be LOUIS J. FLEHER and JOHN R. BRUNS.

AC:WJL  
65--

65-4332-198



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : File

FROM : SAC A. CORNELIUS, JR.

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE (R)

DATE: June 16, 1950

I called Mr. C. E. HENNRICH of the Bureau 6/16/50 and advised him that the interview with BLACK was still going on, but that he had not as yet furnished information relative to any violations of the Espionage Statutes within the Statute of Limitations, although he had furnished information which brought him very close to the line.

I advised him that it was believed desirable to interview FERDINAND HELLER at this time, and he stated it was satisfactory to go ahead and do this. I told him we would advise before we arranged the search of HELLER's home, but that this would definitely be kept in mind.

AC/mjm

✓ 65-4332

cc FERDINAND HELLER FILE

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |     |
| JUN 16 1950        |     |
|                    | lsm |

65-4332-199 283

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: June 16, 1950

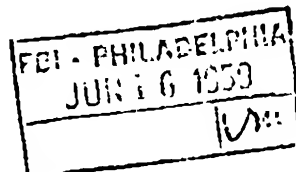
TO : File  
FROM : SAC A. CORNELIUS, JR.  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE (R)

On four occasions during the day and evening, 6/15/50, I contacted Mr. A. BELMONT of the Bureau and advised him of the progress being made in connection with the questioning of BLACK. During the evening, I advised him of the fact that authorizations to search his residence, his desk at his place of business, the Spruce Chemical Company at Paterson, N. J., and his effects in a warehouse in or near Newark, N. J., were obtained.

At 11.30 p.m., 6/15/50, Mr. BELMONT requested that a teletype be sent to the Bureau advising of all information developed during the day on BLACK in order that it would be available to take up with the Department at 9 a.m., the morning of 6/16/50.

AC/rjm

65- 4332



65-4332-200

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : File

FROM : SAC, A. CORNELIUS, JR.

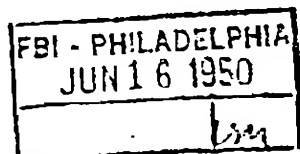
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE (R)

DATE: June 16, 1950

Mr. LALLY, Baltimore Office, called and stated that with reference to the teletype of 1.45 a.m., 6/16/50, he believed they had succeeded in identifying BILL as WILLIAM W. STAPLER, the contact of BLACK in Wilmington. He advised that STAPLER had died in 1947; that they had obtained photographs; and that the Resident Agent at Wilmington was en route to Philadelphia with the photographs at this time and would be here by 6 p.m. He reported there was nothing in the indices at Baltimore on STAPLER.

AC/wjm

65-4330



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : DAVID W. BREEN, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

EDWIN J. SANDERSON, resident manager, Majestic Hotel, Broad and Girard Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. advised the writer the only registration cards for 1948 that he was able to locate were those from July through December, 1948.

A review of the registration cards for the months of July, August and September, 1948 were made with the following results:

Registration card No. 20725 dated September 26, 1948 reflects that THOMAS L. BLACK, 17 Oxford Street, Newark, New Jersey, was registered in Room 704, that there was only one in the party and that he paid in advance. The rate for this room was \$2.50. The folio number of this registration is 18449.

SANDERSON advised that there would be no record of phone calls used by BLACK while in room No. 704 inasmuch as there it is the practice that those who pay in advance, pay each telephone call as it is made and there is no record for any billing thereof.

No other information of value was obtained from the Majestic Hotel.

DWB:EMC  
65-4332

Walter  
Walt  
65-422

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : DAVID W. BREEN, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was,  
ESPIONAGE - R.

DATE: June 16, 1950

With reference to the background and employment of one ALVIN W. SCHECTER, 4514 or 4515 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pa., the following investigation was conducted:

A review of the May 1950, Bell Telephone Directory, Philadelphia, reflects one ALVIN W. SCHECTER, 4514 Pine Street, telephone number GR-2-5796.

The following information was obtained by SE PAUL J. HOTTINGER:

ALVIN SCHECTER, 4514 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pa., is the owner of and is self-employed by the Aldo Paint Supply Company. He has account number 598 with Lipton Paint and Varnish and account 5762 with HFC, 52nd and Market Streets.

The records of Dun and Bradstreet reflect ALDO Paint Supply Company (not incorporated) 1418 Walnut Street (905 Bellevue Court) under report dated 5/4/49, ALVIN SCHECTER is the owner and the buying was registered by ALVIN W. SCHECTER on 2/21/47, at which time the business was started. SCHECTER is 25, single, and a native of Philadelphia since about 1940, with the exception of service in the U.S. Army from January 1943, to March 1946. He was employed as a clerk by an uncle who owns the New York Paint and Supply Company at 2831 Kensington Avenue. According to SCHECTER, he used \$3,500 of his savings to start this business. Removal was made from 1712 South 20th Street to the present address in February 1949. He furnishes jobs paint supplies and chemicals to industrial concerns in the Philadelphia area. He has no employees and maintains only mail and telephone privileges at 1418 Walnut Street, in a large central office building. He resides at 4514 Pine Street. On 4/22/49, SCHECTER submitted estimates indicating a net worth of a few hundred dollars, including accounts payable of only \$175. One supplier alone consulted on 4/28/49 reports \$750 owing, and about 8 months past due. His buying at the present time is believed short of providing expenses.

DWB/jgb  
65-4332

65-4332-203

Walter (11/11)

SAC

Under report of 5/9/49, records show that on 5/2/49 in Municipal Court, May 1949, term, Docket number 6, suit on contract was entered against ALVIN A. SCHECTER, trading as Aldo Painters Supply Company by Monard Paint and Varnish Company. Defendant's address was given as 1712 South 20th Street by the records which also show that this action is to recover said \$156 for merchandise sold and delivered. Subject's business was formerly active at 1712 South 20th Street.

Under report of 6/2/49, the records show that on 6/16/49 in Municipal Court, May 1949 term, Docket number 6, a judgment in the amount of \$779 for want of answer was entered against ALVIN A. SCHECTER by Monard Paint and Varnish Company.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : HOWARD A. SEARL, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

As a result of a surveillance on the above subject, he on June 12, 1950 was observed placing a call at approximately 6:44 PM from Whelan Drug Store, Broad and Olney Avenue, a pay station, Hancock 4-9979. He later on the same date, at approximately 10:00 PM, placed a call from the pay station, telephone number Fremont 7-9755, which is located in the cut rate drug store at 2040 Germantown Avenue. This latter phone is in the name of B. B. OLINSKY, DRUGS, at the above-mentioned address.

A subpoena was secured by SA HENRY J. FEELEY on June 15, 1950, which was served on June 16, 1950 on H. J. WALTER, who is Office Manager of the Legal Department of the BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA, 19th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia. As a result of the subpoena, SE JOHN J. GALLAGHER was able to observe the toll tickets for the date of June 12, 1950, on each of the above-mentioned telephones.

The record for telephone Hancock 4-9979 failed to reflect a ticket for the pertinent time. The toll ticket for Fremont 7-9755 reflects that at 9:58 PM a call was placed on that phone to New York City at phone number Hyacinth 8-9523, which call was terminated at 10:30 PM. This call was placed through Operator 111 of New York, and the charge was 55¢ plus tax of 15¢.

The phone number Hyacinth 8-9523 has previously been determined to be that of JACOB ISRAEL FROES.

HAS:MEG  
65-4332

*listed to Meyer Jess, father of Jacob Froes*

65-4332-204

*Walter*  
2



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 17, 1950

FROM : SA MORRIS S. MARINSTEIN

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

In the evening of June 16, 1950 the writer furnished telephonically to Mr. CARL HENNRICH of the Bureau, the highlights of the information that had been developed during the day in the interview with THOMAS L. BLACK. It was agreed that the material would be transmitted later by teletype.

Mr. HENNRICH advised that the Bureau had tried to check with the Army regarding the possibility that penicillin was ever classified. Army Intelligence had no information immediately available that penicillin had ever been classified and suggested that a check be made with the MEROX COMPANY, which had developed penicillin originally.

The MEROX COMPANY has a Philadelphia Office at 1549 North Broad Street.

MSE/jmf  
65-4332

65-4332-208

lead-  
handle 7/19.Waltre  
Resd

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BOSTON

FBI PHILADELPHIA

6/19/50

5:30 P.M. CMM

SAC, BOSTON:

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R

SUBJECT IN COMPANY OF EMORY RICHARDS, GLENDALE, RHODE ISLAND, ON JUNE  
SEVENTEEN - EIGHTEEN, LAST. RICHARDS AND PERCY H. HELL, WORCESTER, MASS.,  
ARRIVED AT SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY, PATERSON, NEW JERSEY, IN SAME VEHICLE.  
SURVEILLANCE INDICATES RICHARDS, HELL, AND JACOB PASS ARE ASSOCIATES AND  
INTERESTED IN THE OPERATION OF SPRUCE CHEMICAL. BOSTON REQUESTED TO  
SEARCH ITS INDICES AND IF ADVISABLE, INTERVIEW EMORY RICHARDS RE BLACK'S  
ACTIVITIES.

CORRELIUS

HAS:CLM  
65-4332

65-4332-209

Approved: A. C. Sullivan  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 1:17 M

Per

FBI ALBANY 6-19-50 8-48PM CHS

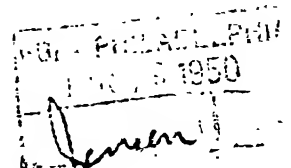
SAC, PHILADELPHIA .....URGENT.....

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R. REURTEL THIS DATE AT SEVEN  
THIRTY SIX PM, RESENT TO BUFFALO FOR COVERAGE OF LEAD AT ROCHESTER,  
NY WHICH IS NOT IN ALBANY DIVISION.

WALL

END

OK FBI PH MMLV



15-4332-270

FD-5  
(12-1-49)

CHARGE-OUT SLIP  
Permanent

DATE 7-25-50

ENTIRE FILE

CLASS

NUMBER

LAST SERIAL

SERIALS

214

OF 65-

4332.

CLASS

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL 214 WAS FOUND TO BE IDENTICAL WITH SERIAL 220  
AND WAS REMOVED AND RESERIALIZED AS SUCH.

LOCATION

SPECIAL AGENT  
CCO

RECHARGE

DATE

TO

FROM

FBI BUFFALO 6-20-50 2-40 DST AVC

SAC PHILADELPHIA URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESPIONAGE R. RE ALBANY TEL TO BUFFALO JUNE NINETEEN LAST. MRS VELMA MC CALL INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, EASTMAN KODAK CO, KODAK PARK, ROCHESTER, NY SAID THERE IS NO RECORD OF SUBJECT EVER HAVING BEEN EMPLOYED AT THE EASTMAN KODAK CO IN ANY OF THE ROCHESTER, NY PLANTS OR ANY OF THEIR PROCESSING LABS INCLUDING THOSE OUTSIDE OF ROCHESTER, NY. MRS MC CALL SAID THE COMPANY DOES NOT RETAIN THE APPLICATIONS OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR POSITIONS BUT WHO ARE NOT HIRED FOR MORE THAN A TWO YEAR PERIOD. BLACK - S NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON ANY APPLICATION FORM PRESENTLY ON FILE.

MAYNOR

END

OK FBI PH LPM

65-4332 - 29

|                    |
|--------------------|
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |
| JUN 20 1950        |
| Wick               |

Seal

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 20, 1950

FROM : SA WILLIAM G. CURRALL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

On June 20, 1950, the writer interviewed Miss ROSALIE G. ROBERTS, Superintendent, Friends Boarding Home, Concord Quarterly Meeting, also known as the Hickman Home, West Chester, Pa. Miss ROBERTS advised that Miss EDITH STAPLER presently resides at the home which is primarily a home for the aged. Persons are not admitted to this institution until they are at least 65 years of age. She made available an admission slip concerning EDITH STAPLER which reflected that she entered the institution on March 8, 1949. It reflects that she was born October 17, 1880; that her father was WILLIAM W. STAPLER, and that her mother was EMMA A. STAPLER.

The admission slip also includes the following listings:

Doctor: Dr. KISTLER  
Undertaker: Casper P. Hicks Burial,  
Wilmington, Del.  
Notify: Mrs. STANLEY AYERS,  
1706 Woodlawn Avenue,  
Wilmington, Del.

Miss ROBERTS advised that there is no doctor assigned to the institution but that a local doctor is usually listed by the persons taking residence there and he is the one who is called in the event of any sickness.

According to Miss ROBERTS, the file on EDITH STAPLER included a letter, dated February 6, 1949, from Dr. FRANK F. PIERSON, 1007 Jefferson Street, Wilmington, Del. In the letter, Dr. PIERSON advised that EDITH STAPLER had been under his observation for a number of years and that she has a tendency to some elevation of blood pressure but that this does not interfere with her activities. Miss ROBERTS does not recall EDITH STAPLER having been sick since the time she entered the institution, and stated further that, to her knowledge, a doctor was never called to attend her.

Miss ROBERTS also advised that Mrs. STANLEY AYERS, listed above as the person to be notified in the event of death, is a member of the Board of Directors of the institution. She further advised that one RALPH STAPLER, a brother to EDITH STAPLER and Mrs. STANLEY AYERS, had lived at the institution

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SAC

June 20, 1950

and died there on January 4, 1943. She was unable to locate the record of the date of his admission but was able to locate a record showing that he had been born in 1878. RALPH STAPLER, according to Miss ROBERTS, had died of natural causes, specifically uranic poisoning.

At this point, Miss ROBERTS stated that, if the writer had come to make inquiries concerning RALPH STAPLER, she could appreciate it much more readily. She then stated that RALPH STAPLER was a "free thinker" and "talked about things that would give people the impression that he had Socialistic tendencies". When questioned further on this point, Miss ROBERTS stated that she wished to withdraw the opinion since it was merely based on what she had heard from former guests at the institution some years back. She added that probably it would be better to characterize RALPH STAPLER as a "liberal thinker", and she again based this opinion on statements made by individuals concerning STAPLER.

According to Miss ROBERTS, there were no children born to Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY AYERS. Further, she was under the impression that RALPH STAPLER was a bachelor and that Miss EDITH STAPLER is a maiden lady. She advised that she had some recollection of RALPH STAPLER having been in California but she was unable to recall the particular association. She did recollect that he had been friendly with a woman named JESSIE HOOPES, a wealthy woman from Swarthmore, Pa., who also died at the institution a few years back. She stated that her impression was that JESSIE HOOPES held common sentiments with RALPH STAPLER and that both, according to information she had received, expressed great sympathy "for the underdog".

The records indicated that JESSIE HOOPES entered the institution in 1941 but Miss ROBERTS was unable to locate a record of her death.

Miss ROBERTS requested that any further inquiries to be made at the Friends Boarding Home be conducted through her, and that, if an interview was desired with EDITH STAPLER, she would prefer to personally make the arrangements for the necessary privacy. She further advised that she would not disclose the fact that an inquiry had been made concerning EDITH STAPLER.

Dr. CLARENCE P. KISTLER, 302 High Street, West Chester, Pa., was also interviewed by the writer on June 20, 1950. It is to be noted that the name Dr. KISTLER was the one listed on EDITH STAPLER's admission slip.

At first Dr. KISTLER was unable to recall EDITH STAPLER but then advised that he had been requested to look after her in the event she became sick while at the Friends Boarding Home. He did not know her before that time, and could not specifically recollect whether he had visited her but advised

SAC

June 20, 1950

that he was under the impression that he had stopped in to see her once or twice because of minor ailments common to elderly persons and he is positive that nothing particularly serious was involved.

Dr. KISTLER stated that he knew no reason why an interview of EDITH STAPLER by agents of this office would adversely effect her. Dr. KISTLER was asked if he recalled that EDITH STAPLER was reported to have a blood pressure condition, to which he replied that it was a minor affair and that he was of the opinion that it would not interfere.

The name EDITH STAPLER is being indexed to this memorandum. Further indexing is left to the discretion of the reviewing agent who is probably familiar with other ramifications of this particular case.



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE -- R

DATE: June 19, 1950

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on June 19, 1950 on subject by Special Agents HERBERT F. ORNATHOUSE, ROBERT W. HANCOCK, JOHN BLAZEK and the writer.

- 9:55 P.M. The agents took up a surveillance at the North Philadelphia Pennsylvania Railroad Station.
- 10:00 P.M. BLACK got off the 9:57 train from New York, where the surveillance was taken over from two Newark agents. BLACK was wearing a gray suit and carrying a small black valise.
- 10:03 P.M. BLACK went to the Mens Room at the North Philadelphia Station.
- 10:10 P.M. BLACK went in one of the telephone booths, which telephone number is RA 5-9425. He stayed for a couple of minutes. He came out, looked in the telephone directory and went back in the above telephone booth. This booth is the second booth on the right going to the stairs to board the train from the South side entrance.
- 10:15 P.M. BLACK left the terminal by the subway entrance where he boarded the southbound subway train going south.
- 10:27 P.M. BLACK got off the subway at North Broad and Columbia Avenue, where he boarded a #3 trolley car going east.
- 10:35 P.M. Subject got off the trolley at 6th and Berks Street, where he walked home, 1929 North 6th Street.

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65-4332

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MEMORANDUM - SAC

June 19, 1950

10:37 P.M. Subject left his residence and walked in a northwardly direction on North 6th Street.

10:40 P.M. He entered the cut rate drug store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.

11:49 P.M. BLACK left the drug store and walked south on 6th Street.

11:53 P.M. BLACK arrived at his residence.

12:10 A.M. Subject's lights were out.

12:30 A.M. Surveillance discontinued.

The original notes of this surveillance are being retained in file, 65-4522.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 20, 1950

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on June 19, 1950 on BLACK by SAs HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, JOHN BLAZER, and the writer. All Agents have knowledge of the subject's activity set out below.

3:30 P.M. The Agents took up the surveillance in the vicinity of 5th and Berks Streets. Subject was at work at his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

4:12 P.M. BLACK left his place of employment.

4:14 P.M. He walked across Fifth Street and Germantown Avenue and entered the cigar store at 1808 Germantown Avenue.

4:22 P.M. He left the cigar store and returned to work. BLACK was carrying a newspaper.

5:40 P.M. Subject left his place of employment. He walked north on 5th Street to Berks Street, then west on Berks to Sixth Street, and walked to his home, 1929 North 6th Street. He was carrying what appeared to be a brown cardboard box under his arm.

5:46 P.M. Time when subject arrived home.

5:49 P.M. Subject left home and walked north on Sixth Street.

5:52 P.M. Subject entered the cut rate drug store, 2040 Germantown Avenue, from the 6th Street entrance.

6:30 P.M. Subject left the drug store and walked south on 5th Street.

6:35 P.M. Black entered his residence. 65-4332-224

7:20 P.M. Subject left his residence, walked south on 6th Street to Berks Street, east on Berks Street to 5th Street, and south on 5th Street to his place of employment.

SAC

June 20, 1950

Re - THOMAS L. BLACK

7:27 P.M. Entered place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

7:55 P.M. Black left his place of employment and went to the cigar store, 1808 Germantown Avenue.

8:00 P.M. Black returned to his place of employment. He carried what appeared to be a small brown paper bag.

10:50 P.M. Subject left his place of employment and walked to his residence. He carried what appeared to be a package wrapped in newspaper, or a bundle of newspapers.

10:55 P.M. Arrived home.

10:57 P.M. Left home.  
Subject walked to the Cut Rate Drug Store where he stood at the 6th Street entrance for several minutes and talked to the druggist.

10:03 P.M. Subject and druggist entered the Cut Rate Drug Store.

11:16 P.M. Subject left the Cut Rate Drug Store and walked south on 6th Street.

11:20 P.M. Arrived home.

12:05 P.M. Lights out.

12:30 P.M. Surveillance discontinued.

The original notes of this surveillance are being retained in file 65-4532.

SAC

June 20, 1950

SA J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on June 19, 1950 on BLACK by SAs HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, JOHN BLAZER, and the writer. All Agents have knowledge of the subject's activity set out below.

3:30 P.M. The Agents took up the surveillance in the vicinity of 5th and Berks Streets. Subject was at work at his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

4:12 P.M. BLACK left his place of employment.

4:24 P.M. He walked across Fifth Street and Germantown Avenue and entered the cigar store at 1808 Germantown Avenue.

4:22 P.M. He left the cigar store and returned to work. BLACK was carrying a newspaper.

5:40 P.M. Subject left his place of employment. He walked north on 5th Street to Berks Street, then west on Berks to Sixth Street, and walked to his home, 1929 North 6th Street. He was carrying what appeared to be a brown cardboard box under his arm.

5:46 P.M. Time when subject arrived home.

5:49 P.M. Subject left home and walked north on Sixth Street.

5:52 P.M. Subject entered the cut rate drug store, 2040 Germantown Avenue, from the 6th Street entrance.

6:30 P.M. Subject left the drug store and walked south on 6th Street.

6:35 P.M. Black entered his residence. 65-4332-224

7:20 P.M. Subject left his residence, walked south on 6th Street to Berks Street, east on Berks Street to 5th Street, and south on 5th Street to his place of employment.

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65-4332

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SAC

June 20, 1950

Re - THOMAS L. BLACK

7:27 P.M. Entered place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street.

7:55 P.M. Black left his place of employment and went to the cigar store, 1808 Germantown Avenue.

8:00 P.M. Black returned to his place of employment. He carried what appeared to be a small brown paper bag.

10:50 P.M. Subject left his place of employment and walked to his residence. He carried what appeared to be a package wrapped in newspaper, or a bundle of newspapers.

10:55 P.M. Arrived home.

10:57 P.M. Left home.  
Subject walked to the Cut Rate Drug Store where he stood at the 6th Street entrance for several minutes and talked to the druggist.

10:08 P.M. Subject and druggist entered the Cut Rate Drug Store.

11:16 P.M. Subject left the Cut Rate Drug Store and walked south on 6th Street.

11:20 P.M. Arrived home.

12:05 P.M. Lights out.

12:30 P.M. Surveillance discontinued.

The original notes of this surveillance are being retained in file 65-4332.



Memorandum

- 6:21 p.m. - SA WILLIAM G. CURRALL arrived at this address.
- 6:22 p.m. - BLACK and MILLER left the car and walked across the street to Julius Restaurant and Bar at 2nd and Widener Streets. The above was noted by Mr. PLATTEN and CURRALL and the writer.
- 6:26 p.m. - SA WILLIAM G. LIDBETON arrived at this location.
- 6:28 p.m. - BLACK and MILLER were observed by Surveilling Agents to leave the restaurant and enter MILLER's car.
- 6:12 p.m. - BLACK got out of MILLER's car at 5th Street and Tabor Road. MILLER proceeded north on 5th Street.
- 6:15 p.m. - BLACK boarded #17 street car marked 9th and 10th. The number of the car was 3035.
- 6:31 p.m. - BLACK was observed by SAs CURRALL and HELLEBERG to get off the street car at Franklin and Diamond Streets.
- 6:35 p.m. - BLACK walked west on Diamond Street where he entered an appliance store on the southeast corner of 9th and Diamond Streets, where he remained only for a couple of minutes. He then walked east on Diamond Street to 6th Street, where he turned south on 6th.
- 6:46 p.m. - Subject arrived at his residence, 1927 N. 6th Street.
- 9:04 p.m. - BLACK left his home and walked to his place of employment, 1827 N. 5th Street. This was observed by Agents CURRALL and HELLEBERG.
- 9:30 p.m. - BLACK left his place of employment, observed by CURRALL and HELLEBERG.
- 9:35 p.m. - Subject walked to and enter the Cut Rate Drug Store, 2042 Germantown Avenue and was observed by all Agents.
- 10:53 p.m. - Agents observed BLACK leave the Drug Store.
- 9:58 p.m. - Agents observed BLACK arrive at his residence.
- 11:10 p.m. - BLACK turned his lights out.
- 11:14 p.m. - Surveillance discontinued.

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted by SAs LIDBETON, CURRALL and HELLEBERG on an individual contacted by BLACK earlier



Memorandum

On the Day:

- 3:27 p.m. - SAs CURRALL and WILKINSON arrived at 150 W. Broad Street, where they were advised by SA ROBERT M. GRANT that a 1936 DeSoto, Pennsylvania License 54122, was parked in front of the Academy of Fine Arts. This car was registered to ALVIN J. SCHMIDT, 321 First Street, Phila. The driver of this car was described as being 5'6", 160 lbs., dark hair, dressed in light blue trousers and darker blue jacket. He was not wearing a hat.
- 3:19 p.m. - SA WILKINSON observed the driver of this car walking east on Cherry Street and enter this automobile.
- 4:40 p.m. - SA CURRALL observed that he made a U turn and proceeded north on Broad Street, then east on Race Street. He parked on the north side of Willow Street, just west of 2nd Street, facing in an eastwardly direction. In the northwest corner of 2nd and Willow Streets there is a sign for Jake's Variety Shop. He left his car.
- 4:55 p.m. - SA CURRALL observed this individual to return to his car.
- 5:20 p.m. - This individual proceeded to 5th and Race Streets where he parked on the south side of Race in front of 416. He arrived at this address at 5:35 p.m. It was not observed whether he left the car.
- 5:40 p.m. - The driver departed in car with 2 female passengers and proceeded north.
- 5:51 p.m. - SA CURRALL observed a woman get out of the car at the southeast corner of Wyoming Avenue and 3th Street. This woman had faded blonde hair and wore a light camel hair type topcoat. She is between 30 and 40 years of age. The driver of this car proceeded north on 3th Street and parked on the west side of 6th Street, 1/2 block above Wyoming Avenue. At 6:00 p.m. SA CURRALL observed the driver and another woman get out of the car and enter a house. They both passed just north of the first orange colored "For Sale" sign, which is set in the lawn perpendicular to the street. It appeared to CURRALL that they entered this address. This woman has dark hair. She wore a light colored jacket and a silk type dress with small flower type pattern.
- 6:06 p.m. - SA WILKINSON took up the surveillance at this location and ascertained that the address was 4723 N. 6th Street.
- 7:12 p.m. - The driver of this car left this address.

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7:55 p.m. - He arrived and entered the Brith Israel Synagogue at Roosevelt Blvd. and 1st St. This was observed by SA MIDDLETON. The surveillance of this individual was discontinued at this point.

The original notes are being retained in file 65-4332.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOHN A. HEBENSTREIT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, Was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 19, 1950

On June 19, 1950, Mr. R. G. ANDERSON, Branch Manager, Merck Company, 1649 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advised that during the early 1940's the Merck Company as well as several other companies were doing research work on penicillin. He said that the research work was somewhat confidential, but was not of a classified nature. Mr. ANDERSON stated that there was free exchange of information between companies doing research work on penicillin. He added that the Merck Company did not have government contracts, although most of the penicillin did go to the armed forces. Mr. ANDERSON stated that Mr. REVERDY JOHNSON of the Legal Department, Merck Company, Rahway, New Jersey, would be able to furnish additional information concerning the development of penicillin. Mr. ANDERSON telephonically contacted Mr. JOHNSON, at which time the following information was obtained.

Mr. JOHNSON stated that penicillin was first discovered back in the late 1920's, but little research was actually done until about 1939. About this time, the government started calling for large quantities of penicillin, so E. R. Squibb and Sons Company, Pfizer Company, and Merck Company started to do considerable research work on penicillin in order to develop new and better means of producing penicillin. During this period there was free interchange of research data between these companies, and the data concerning penicillin was not considered to be of a confidential nature. Mr. JOHNSON said that penicillin was being produced through a fermentation process. However, because of the ever increasing need of the armed services for penicillin, the government through the Office of Scientific Research Development started a program about 1942 to produce penicillin from synthetics. The Office of Scientific Research Development obtained the services of approximately 17 or 18 firms and universities to do research work for the purpose of developing penicillin from synthetics. This program lasted until approximately 1945, at which time it was abandoned with little success. All research data developed by the various firms and universities was forwarded to the Office of Scientific Research Development, where it was correlated and then distributed, so that everyone would have the benefit of all research data. According to Mr. JOHNSON, this program was considered confidential

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*never synthesized?  
(as I recall, one of the Stepan's  
was going to put up some  
money to try to develop  
synthetic penicillin)  
information that Phil  
obtained for  
Hites*

65-4332-229

MEMO, SAC

June 19, 1950

by the government, but to his knowledge, was not considered to be of a classified nature. As best Mr. JOHNSON could recollect, none of the firms had government contracts, nor received financial aid from the government with the exception of several universities which had limited financial support and may have received certain expenses. Most penicillin was supplied the government by the Merck Company, E. R. Squibb and Sons Company, and Pfizer Company, which organizations increased their production and facilities to meet the demand. The penicillin produced by these companies was developed from the fermentation process.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOHN A. HEDENSTREIT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, Was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 19, 1950

Miss S. V. HENKELS, 43 West Gravers Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advised that BLACK roomed at her residence from about June 13, 1946 to the end of October, 1946. She said that BLACK was recommended to her by the secretary of Mr. BERG, of the Berg Laboratories, Philadelphia, where BLACK was employed as a chemist. She said that BLACK worked late hours, and that she did not become very well acquainted with him, but had no reason to doubt his loyalty. She was of the impression that BLACK was originally from the Coal Mine Regions of Pennsylvania. Miss HENKELS said that BLACK went to New York quite often, and maintained a residence in Newark, New Jersey where he stayed while in New York. She said the only friend of BLACK's that she could recall was a Mr. GOLD. According to Miss HENKELS, BLACK never said or did anything which would indicate that he was not a loyal American. She was unable to furnish any additional information concerning BLACK.

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65-4332-230

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JAMES E. HALNER

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, wa  
Espionage - R

DATE: June 20, 1950

With reference to a piece of paper secured from a trash cover on THOMAS L. BLACK, 1926 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, bearing the name HONSBERGER, O'SHEA Employment Service, the writer contacted Mr. HAROLD CLIFFORD "PETE" HONSBERGER, Director, Technical Department, O'SHEA System of Employment, Room 336 Widener Building, on June 19, 1950 in order to determine what HONSBERGER knew about the subject. At the time, HONSBERGER advised the writer that he was not acquainted with THOMAS L. BLACK and to his knowledge, had no dealings with such an individual.

HONSBERGER then requested that the writer furnish him with detailed background concerning BLACK so that he could check his records. The writer furnished HONSBERGER a photograph, complete description, and detailed background information concerning BLACK. HONSBERGER then stated that the name and features of BLACK were vaguely familiar to him but he could not recall the exact circumstances of having met this individual. He stated that a person fitting the description of BLACK, who came from Princeton or New Brunswick, N. J., may have been a consulting chemist for SAMUEL P. SADTLER, 2100 Arch Street, or for a person named LaROCHE, who has a chemical laboratory in the vicinity of 52nd and Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia. HONSBERGER stated that he believed that this individual, whom he thought might be identical with BLACK, had appeared at his office at the O'SHEA Employment Agency on two occasions within the past six months in reference to an employment problem either for SADTLER or LaROCHE.

During the entire interview HONSBERGER appeared to be extremely nervous and ill at ease, a characteristic not usually associated with a person who has been in personnel work as long as HONSBERGER. The writer also noted that HONSBERGER insisted on securing more detailed information concerning BLACK and his background so he could search his records, even after he had been furnished a photograph, description, and detailed background concerning the subject.

For the information of the file, HONSBERGER is described as follows:

JEN:AVN  
65-4332

cc - 100-970 ("Pete" Honsberger)

*Black does not know  
Honsberger & has never  
seen St. O'Shea*

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June 20, 1950

Re - THOMAS L. BLACK, wa.

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Name            | HAROLD CLIFFORD "PETE" HONSHENGER  |
| Height          | 5'8"   |
| Age             | Approximately 47   |
| Eyes            | Blue   |
| Eyeglasses      | Wears light colored rimmed glasses   |
| Hair            | Bald on top; sandy, with slight tinge of gray  |
| Weight          | 148 pounds - has slight "bay window"   |
| Characteristics | Sandy mustache   |
| Employment      | Presently Director, Technical Department<br>O'Shea System of Employment<br>Room 336 Widener Building, Philadelphia,<br>1945 to present.<br>Past Position -<br>Personnel Manager,<br>BALDWIN LOCOMOTIVE COMPANY, Eddystone, Pa. |

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The writer's notes taken at this interview with HONSHENGER are being retained in file 65-4332.

SAC

June 20, 1950

Re - THOMAS L. BLACK, wa.

LEAD

THE PHILADELPHIA FIELD DIVISION

AT PHILADELPHIA -

Will question BLACK concerning any connections he has had with HONSBENDER for the purpose of determining any discrepancy in HONSBENDER'S story.

Will contact LaROCHE at the chemical company in the vicinity of 52nd and Lancaster Avenue, and question him regarding any possible connection his company has had with BLACK.

Will likewise contact SAMUEL P. SADTLER, 2100 Arch Street, concerning any dealings his company might have had with BLACK.

*done*



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 20, 1950

SA FRED T. HOULIHAN, Wilkes Barre Resident Agent, telephonically advised the writer on June 20, 1950, that he just interviewed Mrs. LOIS BLACK, who is the stepmother of the subject and currently resides at 621½ Shepherd Street, Columbus 8, Ohio; however, is vacationing in Orangeville, Pa., staying at the residence of Mrs. HARRY LOW. Mrs. BLACK, whose maiden name was BRUNSTETTER, is a registered nurse, employed by the Grant Hospital, at Columbus, Ohio. She stated that she married A. BRUCE BLACK in 1919 or 1920, and that the latter individual is the father of the subject. She pointed out that A. BRUCE BLACK was an instructor in penmanship at the Pennsylvania State Normal, in Bloomsburg, Pa., and was very interested in Shakespearean drama. A. BRUCE BLACK died in 1932.

Mrs. BLACK stated that she has not seen the subject since 1939, and had not had many contacts with him since 1925, at which time he left home to go to Pennsylvania State College, and on entry in the college their contacts became very few and far between. She pointed out that they had never lived together and following college he obtained employment and she had not seen him excepting for a period of one week just before the subject's father died in 1932. She pointed out the last time she saw the subject was on her visit to the World's Fair, in New York City, in 1939, at which time she made a brief visit with BLACK. She was unable to provide any details as to his activities or associates and was unaware of his current address or employer. She pointed out to SA HOULIHAN that the last employment that she was aware of, that the subject was engaged in, was the American Cyanamid Company and with "some silk company in New Jersey."

She advised the only relatives that she was aware of was the brother of the subject's maternal mother, who is BEN WILLIAMS, of Hershey, Pa., whom she believes is the manager of a large dry goods store in Hershey. She pointed out that WILLIAMS apparently has had more contact with the subject, who is known as TASSO LESSING BLACK.

She advised that Mrs. DARL MEYERS, of Benton, Pa., (near Bloomsburg, Pa.) was married to BRUCE MATHERS, who in turn was a nephew of the

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MEMO, SAC

June 20, 1950

father of the subject. SA HOULIHAN advised that he will interview Mrs. DARL MEYERS relative to the subject.

Mrs. LOIS BLACK pointed out that the subject's mother died when he was five years of age and that



She said that contacts between the subject and herself had been on a very limited scale especially in that the subject had commented to some one that he "didn't want to be bothered by anyone."

b7c

SA HOULIHAN advised that he had managed to locate the subject's stepmother through PAUL BRUNSTETTER, (her brother) who is the Assistant County Superintendent of Schools in Columbus County, with offices in the county building, at Bloomsburg, Pa. SA HOULIHAN advised that he interviewed PAUL BRUNSTETTER relative to the subject; however, BRUNSTETTER had no knowledge of the subject's activities and remembered him only as a small child.

PERMANENT  
CHARGE-OUT SLIP

FD-5  
(12-1-49)

DATE 6-26-50

ENTIRE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

LAST SERIAL \_\_\_\_\_

SERIALS 240 OF 65-4322

Above serial incorrectly place in CLASS FILE NUMBER  
above file was remove and made serial 60  
of file 65-4348

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL AGENT \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Clerk

RECHARGE

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TO

FROM

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Philadelphia

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/21/50

Re: memo, June 20, 1950, concerning investigation conducted by  
SA FRED T. HOULIHAN at Bloomsburg, Pa.

SA HOULIHAN telephonically contacted the writer at approximately 5:30 P.M., on June 20, 1950, and advised that he had contacted Mrs. DARL MEYERS, the wife of Mr. REDDER MEYERS, at Benton, Pa. He stated that Mrs. MEYERS is a distant relative of the above subject. Mrs. MEYERS has not seen the subject for approximately fifteen years, and could provide no current information relative to BLACK's activities.

Mrs. MEYERS stated that there had been no correspondence between the two; i.e., Mrs. MEYERS and the subject; however, BEN WILLIAMS of Hershey, Pa., would be the most logical individual to contact relative to BLACK, inasmuch as WILLIAMS has been in contact with the subject more recently.

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| Daryl              |         |

FBI, RICHMOND 6-21-50 9-26 AM NSH

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP. DASH R. RECORDS ARLINGTON PO REFLECT ONE  
DOHERTY RENTED PO BOX FOUR NINE ONE FIVE UNTIL SEPT. THIRTY, THIRTY  
SIX. NO OTHER DATA AVAILABLE. RECORDS CREDIT BUREAU AND POLICE  
DEPARTMENT ARLINGTON COUNTY, VA. FAIL TO REFLECT RECORD ON C.  
DOHERTY. CREDIT BUREAU RECORDS REFLECT REPORT ON ONE CORNELIUS  
K. DOHERTY, POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH C. DOHERTY, WHO WAS BORN  
EIGHTEEN NINETYSIX AND IS RESIDENT AT FOUR SEVEN ONE NINE ROCK  
SPRING DRIVE, COUNTRY CLUB HILLS, VA., HAVING RESIDED THERE SINCE  
FEBRUARY, THIRTYFOUR. FORMERLY RESIDED WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASH.,  
DC. HAS PRACTICED LAW AXX WASHINGTON, D. C. SINCE TWENTYFOUR. WIFE  
MARY C. DOHERTY. OBTAINED LLB DEGREE FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.  
OIFFXX OFFICE LOCATED TEN TEN VERMONT AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.  
NO RECORD OF HELLER AT PO, CREDIT BUREAU OR POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARLINGTON  
VA. ADVISE IF PRETEXT INTERVIEW WITH DOHERTY DESIRED TO DETERMINE  
IF HELLER RESIDED WITH HIM. RUC.

AUERBACH

END

OK FBI PH MOD

V

*Put CC in  
65-4348*

65-4332-244

|                    |
|--------------------|
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |
| JUN 21 1950        |
| 7:00 PM            |

*Send  
with C. T. T.*

BUREAU, NEWARK, AND NEW YORK

DIRECTOR AND SACS..... U R G E N T

FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER, WAS, ESPIONAGE DASH R. HELLER ARRIVED AT  
PHILADELPHIA OFFICE ONE PM TODAY AND WAS INTERVIEWED UNTIL FOUR

FIFTY PM. FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO IN ADDITION TO THAT PREVIOUSLY  
SUPPLIED. HE STILL INSISTS HE SAW OVAKIMIAN ONLY TWO OR AT MOST

THREE TIMES AND THAT HE PASSED CHEMICAL FORMULATIONS TO PETERSEN ON  
ONLY ONE OCCASION. HE NOW BELIEVES ON PROBABLY ONE OCCASION DURING  
THE SUMMER OF THIRTYTHREE HARRY GOLD VISITED VERA KANE'S APARTMENT  
DURING COURSE OF A GENERAL PARTY, BUT REMEMBERS NOTHING FURTHER ABOUT  
THIS INCIDENT. HE IS POSITIVE THAT GOLD NEVER VISITED KANE'S APART-  
MENT ON ANY OTHER OCCASION WHILE HE WAS THERE. GOLD <sup>HAS</sup> ~~WAS~~ INFORMED

AGENTS THAT HE DID VISIT KANE'S APARTMENT ON ONE OCCASION WHILE HELLER  
AND BLACK WERE THERE AT ABOUT THAT TIME, AND <sup>HELLER</sup> ~~HE~~ AND GOLD WILL BE QUES-  
TIONED FURTHER RE THIS. HELLER FURNISHED CONSIDERABLY MORE PERSONAL

DATA CONCERNING HIS OWN FRIENDS, ACQUAINTANCES AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATES  
WHO WERE IN POSITION TO KNOW OF HIS ACTIVITIES FROM THIRTYTHREE TO  
DATE. AND SEPARATE LEADS WILL BE SET OUT TO INTERVIEW THOSE WHO MAY  
HAVE PERTINENT INFORMATION. THESE LEADS WILL BE SET OUT FOLLOWING  
INTERVIEW WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED TONIGHT WITH DOROTHY WISWELL, FOR-  
MER WIFE OF HELLER, WHO SHOULD BE CONVERSANT WITH HIS ACTIVITIES  
FROM THIRTYSEVEN THRU FORTYTHREE. HELLER DENIED THAT HE EVER BE-

JW-REM:1001  
65-4348

65-4332

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized at  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed at

65-4332-252

PAGE TWO

LONGED TO COMMUNIST PARTY OR TO FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION, BUT DID ATTEND OPEN MEETINGS OF LATTER IN THIRTYTHREE AND THIRTYFOUR. HE RECALLED THAT DURING THAT PERIOD IN MAGAZINE QUOTE SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY UNQUOTE HE SAW ADVERTISEMENTS OF ORGANIZATION CALLED QUOTE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TO AID SOVIET UNION UNQUOTE, WHICH WERE FOR PURPOSE OF ENLISTING HELP OF CHEMISTS AND PHYSICISTS IN SOLVING INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS OF SU. HE DISCUSSED THIS COMMITTEE WITH FRIENDS, PROBABLY WITH BLACK AND KANE, AND AT ONE TIME CONSIDERED JOINING, BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT HE ACTUALLY DID SO. WITH REFERENCE TO HIS RELATIONS WITH VERA KANE DURING THIRTYTHREE AND THIRTYFOUR, HELLER INSISTED THAT SHE WAS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH BOTH HIS AND BLACK-S ACTIVITIES AT THAT TIME, THAT SHE KNEW ABOUT THEIR DEALINGS WITH OVAKIMIAN AND THAT SHE TYPED AT LEAST <sup>ONE</sup> GROUP OF CHEMICAL FORMULATIONS FOR HIM AND FOR BLACK WHICH HE, HELLER, TURNED OVER TO PETERSEN AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO BUREAU. HELLER FURNISHED INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS CURRENT BANK ACCOUNTS AT THREE BANKS IN PHILADELPHIA, WHICH WILL BE CHECKED HERE FOR INFORMATION OF INTEREST. HELLER SAID THAT FROM THE TIME HE LEFT VERA KANE-S APARTMENT, UNTIL THIRTYSIX, WHEN HE RECEIVED WORD THAT BLACK HAD BEEN INJURED IN <sup>EXPLOSION</sup> EXPLOSION, HE HAD NO CONTACT WITH EITHER BLACK OR KANE. ALSO DENIED ANY ESPIONAGE



PAGE THREE

CONTACTS OR ANYTHING WHICH COULD BE REMOTELY CONSTRUED AS ESPIONAGE DURING THAT PERIOD. HOWEVER, SAID TODAY THAT IN SUMMER OF THIRTYSIX, AFTER HE AND BLACK HAD BECOME FRIENDLY AGAIN, THEY DISCUSSED GOING TO AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HE THINKS WAS THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE SPANISH LOYALISTS, IN NYC, AND THAT HE AND BLACK WENT TO THE OFFICE OF THIS ORGANIZATION, BUT HE CLAIMS THAT GIRL THERE TOLD HIM THAT THEY WERE TAKING NO MORE VOLUNTEERS. HELLER SAID HE WAS THE PRIME MOVER IN THIS ACT, AND THAT BLACK WAS NOT TOO ENTHUSIASTIC, AND THAT HE WAS MOTIVATED BY A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE AND NOT BY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. HELLER SAID THAT DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME, HE WAS LIVING AT FIVE TEN HUDSON ST., AND HIS ASSOCIATION WITH BLACK WAS SPORADIC AND HE COULD NOT FULLY EXPLAIN HOW HE AND BLACK HAD ENOUGH TIME TO DISCUSS AIDING LOYALIST SPAIN. HELLER SAID THAT FIVE TEN HUDSON ST., NYC, WAS A FOUR-STORY BUILDING CONTAINING ONE APARTMENT ON EACH FLOOR. THE APARTMENT WHICH HE RENTED FROM AGNES WAS ON THE THIRD FLOOR AND SHE OCCUPIED THE KITCHEN AND LARGE FRONT ROOM, WHILE HE OCCUPIED A SMALL ROOM AT THE REAR. HE SAID THE FIRST FLOOR OF THIS BUILDING WAS OCCUPIED BY A BAKERY WHICH WAS OPERATED BY A GERMAN FAMILY WHO LIVED ON THE SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT. HE SAID THIS FAMILY WAS NOT COMMUNIST AND WAS ANTAGONISTIC TOWARD THE OTHER OCCUPANTS



PAGE FOUR

OF THE BUILDING. THE FOURTH FLOOR WAS OCCUPIED BY THE DEW FAMILY WHICH CONSISTED OF ALBERT, HIS WIFE BETTY, HIS SON HENRY AND HIS SISTER IN LAW BEBA KLEIN. WITH REFERENCE TO HIS CURRENT EMPLOYMENT WITH AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO., WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, THIRTYSEVEN, HELLER STATED HE HAD ACCESS TO AND WOULD VISIT MANY PLANTS ENGAGED IN WAR PRODUCTION DURING WORLD WAR TWO. HE DENIED REPEATEDLY THAT HE WAS EVER APPROACHED DURING THAT PERIOD OR SINCE THAT PERIOD BY ANYONE IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION SUPREPTITIOUSLY. DURING THAT PERIOD HE CLAIMS TO HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WHATSOEVER WITH ANYONE KNOWN TO HIM AS A COMMUNIST OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIETS.

WITH REFERENCE TO VERA KANE, HELLER DESCRIBED HER AS PROBABLY A GRADUATE OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL, AS VERY HIGH-STRUNG, POSSIBLY NEUROTIC AND HIGHLY INTELLIGENT. HE SAID THAT HE DEFINITELY LIVED WITH HER FOR A YEAR FROM OCTOBER, THIRTYTHREE TO THIRTYFOUR, AS MAN AND WIFE IN HER APARTMENT, AND THAT MOST OF THEIR CLOSE ASSOCIATES KNEW THEY WERE SO LIVING. DURING THAT PERIOD, SHE WAS CONTINUOUSLY EMPLOYED AT A GOOD SALARY AND ALTHOUGH SHE WAS AWARE OF HIS AND BLACK-S INTEREST IN GOING TO THE SU THROUGH ALTORG, SHE NEVER EXPRESSED TOO MUCH INTEREST IN IT. WITH REFERENCE TO PETERSEN, WHOM HELLER SAW ONLY ONCE, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, HELLER DESCRIBES HIM AS WHITE

PAGE FIVE

MAN IN HIS THIRTIES, FIVE TWO TO FIVE FOUR, WIRY BUILD, CLEAN-SHAVEN, WORE METAL-RIMMED GLASSES, HAD TANNED OR RUDDY BROWN FACE, WEIGHT ONE TWENTY TO FORTY POUNDS, NEAT AND CLEAN, WITH NO FOREIGN OR REGIONAL ACCENT. HELLER IS SURE PETERSEN WAS A NATIVE-BORN AMERICAN. AS INDICATED ABOVE, WISWELL WILL BE INTERVIEWED HERE TONIGHT AND INTERVIEW WITH DR. JOSEPH SKILTON, WHO HAS BEEN CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF HELLER SINCE HIGH SCHOOL AND WHO ASSOCIATED WITH HIM IN NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA, WILL BE CONDUCTED TOMORROW AM, AFTER WHICH IT IS CONTEMPLATED ADDITIONAL LEADS WILL BE SET OUT. HELLER STATED TONIGHT THAT EARLY TOMORROW MORNING HE IS GOING TO NYC TO OBTAIN A PHOTOSTATIC COPY OF HIS MARRIAGE LICENSE TO DOROTHY WISWELL, WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR HIS CONTEMPLATED MARRIAGE HERE. HE WILL BE IN NY FOR A FEW HOURS AND THEN PLANS TO RETURN TO PHILADELPHIA AND THEN GO TO OCEAN CITY, NJ, FRIDAY NIGHT FOR WEEKEND. HE VOLUNTEERED TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THIS OFFICE IN ORDER THAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO REACH HIM AT ANY TIME FOR FURTHER INTERVIEW.

CORNELIUS

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOHN E. GALLIVAN

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 21, 1950

On June 20, 1950 the writer interviewed WALTER ALKUS of the BERG Laboratories, 1827 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia.

ALKUS prefaced his remarks with the statement that all of his information is derived solely from conversations he had with THOMAS L. BLACK during the course of their association at the BERG Laboratories. He also stated that in so far as he knew there was not one instance that in any way reflected adversely upon any of the individuals discussed during the interview.

Mr. ALKUS continued that, from conversations with BLACK, the following individuals were apparently friends of his and have been in contact with BLACK for reasons unknown to ALKUS from time to time:

FRED HELLER  
HARRY GOLD  
ERNEST DOUGHERTY  
ABE BROTHMAN  
DOUGHERTY, alias Doc  
NICHOLAS MOLLIERI (phonetic)  
JOE LEIPER

With regard to FERDINAND HELLER, ALKUS stated he knew him to be a Chemist at the American Paint and Color Company where he is employed as a Salesman travelling principally throughout the United States. He recalled that in the four years or so that BLACK has worked at the Laboratory HELLER has stopped in a few times. He continued that the last time he saw him was a week or two ago when HELLER flew in from Europe and came to the Laboratory to see BLACK. ALKUS understood that HELLER had been in Italy on some business connected with the FIAT Plant in Italy. ALKUS also recalled that HELLER had been in Europe about six months ago, stating that BLACK had shown him a postal card from HELLER. ALKUS also advised that, according to BLACK, HELLER introduced BLACK to GOLD approximately 17 years ago. He continued that GOLD, DOUGHERTY and HELLER were all employed as Chemists at the Pennsylvania Sugar Company and that BLACK was the best man at HELLER's wedding. He continued that HELLER was now divorced but is still friendly with his divorced wife and that they see each other fairly regularly.

JEG/mcb  
65-4332

*Some of the material  
from this should be  
taken up with  
Black promptly,  
direct to him.*

65-4332-256

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....      | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED.....    | FILED.....   |
| JUN 21 1950        |              |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |              |
| <i>W. L. P.</i>    |              |

TO: SAC

June 21, 1950

Relative to HARRY GOLD, ALKUS recalled that, sometime prior to BLACK's employment at the BORG Laboratories, GOLD and DOUGHERTY came to the BORG Laboratories relative to their doing work for the Laboratories as Consultants. ALKUS stated however that, due to the fact that neither GOLD nor DOUGHERTY seemed to know much about chemistry as applied to the textile business, the BORG Laboratories could not use them. Thereafter, GOLD suggested BLACK's name as a Consultant and thereafter BLACK was hired. The only other item ALKUS could recall concerning GOLD was that BLACK apparently got GOLD his job with ABE BROTHMAN and that GOLD worked somewhere in New York City for BROTHMAN. It was ALKUS' recollection that GOLD's work for BROTHMAN was in some way connected with the erection of the STAMON Laboratory in Menajunk, Pennsylvania.

*very ample explanation*

Relative to ELMER SAGOSSEMAN, ALKUS stated that he was a bachelor about 50 years of age and very well to do. He stated that SAGOSSEMAN and BLACK worked together at Napco and, in addition, shared quarters in Newark, New Jersey. He continued that sometime prior to the war SAGOSSEMAN and BROTHMAN formed a partnership and went into business under the name of FINE ORGANICS. Between the efforts of BROTHMAN and SAGOSSEMAN, BLACK was released from his Napco job (war time restrictions on job changing) and thereafter he worked as a Consultant for FINE ORGANICS, receiving a salary of about \$3,000.00 a year. ALKUS recalled that at the same time BLACK was working for FINE ORGANICS he also had a laboratory of his own somewhere in Newark. It was ALKUS' recollection that SAGOSSEMAN was foreign born and that he presently is supporting two sisters who reside in Switzerland. He is also said to own extensive real property and at the present time is building a house somewhere in the Newark area, on land which is not wholly developed, that is, there is no electricity, sewerage or water facilities available.

With regard to ABE BROTHMAN, ALKUS stated that he learned from BLACK that BROTHMAN is a Communist and a great chemist. BROTHMAN was said to have been investigated several times by the FBI but apparently no one could prove he was a Communist. He recalled that during the war BROTHMAN designed plans for the Government. ALKUS stated his information was general and he believed that the plans BROTHMAN had been designing had something to do with either rubber, gas or oil refineries in Texas. He recalled that BROTHMAN wanted BLACK to go to Russia with him to set up and organize a Vitamin Machinery Plant. The job was supposed to last six months to a year and BROTHMAN allegedly told BLACK he would make a lot of money. ALKUS recalled that BLACK was to get 10% of either \$200,000.00 or \$100,000.00. This, according to ALKUS, was approximately //

*Previously covered*

*Doncila*

TO: SAC

June 21, 1950

two years ago and, after a meeting between BLACK and BROTHMAN somewhere in New York where "Russian high brass was present", BLACK turned the job down. BLACK stated to ALFUS that he did not want to go to Russia and that he was afraid of Communism.

Regarding the trip to New York City, ALFUS stated that he drove BLACK to North Philadelphia Station and BLACK proceeded by train to New York. ALFUS also recalled that BROTHMAN and GOLD did not get along with one another for a reason that BLACK never stated. Apparently GOLD also disliked the travelling back and forth to New York and the upshot of the two factors was that GOLD quit BROTHMAN and went to work at the Philadelphia General Hospital.

*is this a  
2nd trip?  
Ray Davis  
to have  
driver  
Black*

Regarding \_\_\_\_\_ DOUGHERTY, alias Doc, ALFUS stated that he, together with GOLD and BEBLER, worked for Napco and prior to the time that BLACK was employed by the BING Laboratories DOUGHERTY came to the plant once. It was ALFUS' recollection that DOUGHERTY was selling something at the time.

After DOUGHERTY left Napco, he worked as a Salesman for the ATOMSON COLLINS COMPANY. ALFUS did not know the location of this organization. He stated that it was at least two years since he has heard BLACK mention DOUGHERTY. He described DOUGHERTY as being 40 years of age, about 5'6" in height, weight, 160 lbs., hair, brown, complexion, medium, Nationality - Irish.

*Mol...* Regarding NICHOLAS MOLINI MI, ALFUS stated that he is a well to do man and has made a fortune in the past few years. He stated that MOLINI's good fortune commenced with his discovery of the rabbit test for pregnancy. He also recalled that MOLINI did some kind of Government contract work during the war.

He continued that BLACK gave MOLINI a new process for making penicillin. The process involved the spray drying of certain chemical substances which rapidly increased the speed and quantity of penicillin produced from the mold. MOLINI is said to have received \$100,000.00 for this process and BLACK received only \$5,000.00. In the FINE ORGANICS Plant, ALFUS stated that MOLINI supervised the running of the plant and that MOLINI was the outside man or contact man. He stated that, according to his information, MOLINI was born in Europe, probably Hungary, and has a wife and two children.

*|| 11*

TQJ SAC

June 21, 1950

Relative to JOSEPH LEIPER, he stated he was employed as a Chemist at the American Paint and Color Company at Norristown, Pennsylvania, but employed in a different position from that of REILLY. Relative to REILLY, he could recall only that BLACK had received several phone calls from him and that on occasion BLACK had called REILLY. He had a recollection that at least some of the conversation concerned gold fish and the feeding thereof.

He was unable to state whether REILLY was acquainted with REILLY.

BLACK stated that BLACK's employment with the BERG Laboratories required no travelling and that, to the best of his recollection, BLACK made one or two isolated trips with either Mr. BERG or himself to New Jersey or surrounding Pennsylvania communities. He recalled the past employments of BLACK from the time of his graduation from school chronologically as follows:

A. BLACK CHEMICAL CO. FACTORY, New York City

Soap Factory in New York or New Jersey. Either the factory or the town was named Holdbrook.

FINE ORGANICS

Self employed at his own Laboratory in Newark

BERG LABORATORIES

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : T. SCOTT MILLER, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 24, 1950

On June 24, 1950, GOLD advised that at the time he had his conversation with BLACK relative to GOLD'S implication with FUCHS on the Monday following the announcement of FUCHS' arrest in February, 1950, he mentioned to BLACK his conversation with ABRAHAM BROTHMAN, which allegedly occurred on about three occasions in the latter part of 1946 and possibly the early part of 1947. This conversation with BROTHMAN in substance was that BROTHMAN, who might possibly have been given FUCHS' name by GOLD, previously advised GOLD that he saw in the paper (in latter part of July, 1946), that FUCHS had been questioned by British authorities. Later GOLD and BROTHMAN had another conversation wherein BROTHMAN told GOLD of his conversation with a Dr. BERNARD KOOPMAN, of Columbia University, relative to Dr. FUCHS having been arrested.

GOLD said that both he and BLACK were puzzled about the alleged arrest for questioning of FUCHS in 1946, and his announced arrest in February, 1950. GOLD said that he and BLACK finally came to the conclusion that FUCHS had never been arrested or questioned prior to early 1950, and that BROTHMAN had made up the story about the article in the newspaper relative to FUCHS.

It is requested that BLACK be asked whether he recalls such a conversation with GOLD at the time they were conversing about GOLD'S implication with FUCHS.

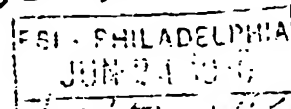
TSM:THM:GG

65-4332

cc: SAs MILLER &amp; BRENNAN

*no recollection of this  
at all*

65-4332-258



# FILE DESCRIPTION

PHILADELPHIA FILE

SUBJECT THOMAS BLACK

FILE NO. 65-4332

VOLUME NO. 5

SERIALS 260

To

323



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48

VOLUME 5File No: 65-9332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 260    | 6-22-50 | PH teletype to HQ and NY                         | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 261    | 6-22-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY and WFO                    | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 262    | 6-23-50 | PH teletype to HQ and CG                         | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 263    | 6-21-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY                        | 7            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 264    | 6-22-50 | SAC memo to file                                 | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 265    | 6-22-50 | PH letter to HQ                                  | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 266    | 6-23-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                        | 5            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 267    | 6-23-50 | BA letter to HQ                                  | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 268    | 6-26-50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH, NK                    | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 269    | 6-22-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 3            | 3        | Process  |
| 270    | 6-22-50 | BS teletype to HQ, NY, PH, NK                    | 3            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 271    | 6-22-50 | WFO teletype to PH, NY                           | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |

VOLUME 5File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 272    | 6-23-50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                        | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 273    | 6-23-50 | SA to SAC, memo RE: Harry Gold                   | 4            |          | See PH 65-4307   |
| 274    | 6-23-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        | Process  |
| 275    | 6-23-50 | HQ teletype to NY, PH                            | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 276    | undated | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK, BA                    | 8            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 277    | 6-26-50 | HQ teletype to PH                                | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 278    | 6-26-50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                        | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 279    | 6-26-50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH, NK                        | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 280    | 6-26-50 | SA to SAC memo RE: 3rd party                     | 10           | 10       | Process  |
| 281    | 6-26-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        | Process  |
| 282    | 6-19-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 4            | 4        | Process  |
| 283    | 6-26-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |

VOLUME 5File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 284    | 6-26-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 285    | 6-26-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 286    | 6-27-50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                        | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 287    | 6-19-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 288    | 6-19-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 289    | 6-21-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 2            | 2        | Process  |
| 290    | 6-22-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 291    | 6-22-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 292    | 6-23-50 | SA to SAC memo                                   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 293    | 6-27-50 | CG teletype to HQ - PH                           | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 294    | 6-27-50 | NY teletype to HQ, PH                            | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 295    | 6-27-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                        | 3            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |

VOLUME 5File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/18  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from)           | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 296    | 6-27-50 | SA to SAC memo RE: 3rd Party                               | 3            | 3        | Process  |
| 297    | 6-27-50 | SA to SAC memo RE: 3rd party                               | 2            | 2        | Process  |
| 298    | 6-28-50 | SA to SAC memo   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 299    | 6-28-50 | SA to SAC memo   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 300    | 6-28-50 | HQ teletype to PH  | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 301    | 6-28-50 | BA teletype to HQ, NY, PH, NK                              | 2            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 302    | 6-28-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY                                  | 5            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 303    | 6-29-50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 304    | 7-5-50  | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 305    | 7-4-50  | NK teletype to HQ, PH                                      | 1            | 1        | Process - (idm mktg)   |
| 306    | 7-3-50  | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | See HQ 65-59181  |
| 307    | 7-3-50  | RE: UNSUB, WA, PAUL SMITH; HARRY GOLD<br>PH teletype to HQ | 3            |          | See PH 65-4307   |

VOLUME 5File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/18  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from)           | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 308    | 7-1-50  | SA to SAC memo   | 1            | 1        | Process  |
| 309    | 7-1-50  | AL report <sup>cover page only</sup> (separate attachment) | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181-68 - consisting of 6 pg report                             |
| 310    | 7-3-50  | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 311    | 7-2-50  | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 312    | 7-1-50  | PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 313    | 6-30-50 | BS teletype to HQ, NY, NK, PH                              | 2            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 314    | 6-30-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NY, NK                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 315    | 6-30-50 | PH teletype to HQ, NK, NY                                  | 2            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 316    | 6-30-50 | NK teletype to HQ, NY, PH                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 317    | 6-30-50 | Re: Harry Gold<br>NY teletype to HQ, PH                    | 1            |          | see HQ 65-57449  |
| 318    | 6-30-50 | HQ teletype to PH  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-57449  |
| 319    | 6-29-50 | HQ teletype to BS, NK, PH                                  | 1            | 1        | Process - Admin. matters   |

VOLUME 5File No: 65-4332Re: THOMAS BLACKDate: 10/78  
(month/year)

| Serial | Date    | Description<br>(Type of communication, to, from) | No. of Pages |          | Exemptions used or, to whom referred<br>(Identify statute if (b)(3) cited) |
|--------|---------|--|--------------|----------|--|
|        |         |  | Actual       | Released |  |
| 320    | 6-29-50 | PH letter to HQ, NK, NY                          | 2            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 321    | 6-27-50 | NK letter to HQ                                  | 1            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 322    | 6-26-50 | SE report  | 2            |          | see HQ 65-59181  |
| 323    | 5-16-46 | SE report RE: 3rd party                          | 1            | 1        | process  |
| 323A   | 7-13-46 | SE report RE: 3rd party                          | 1            | 1        | process  |
| 323B   | 6-24-46 | SE report RE: 3rd party                          | 1            | 1        | process  |
| 323C   | 6-27-50 | SE letter to HQ                                  | 1            | 1        | process - all in mkt.  |
|        |         |  | 127          | 46       |  |
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : File

FROM : SAC A. CORNELIUS, JR.

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
Espionage (R)

DATE: June 22, 1950

On 6/16/50 Mr. BELMONT of the Bureau called and stated that the facts relative to BLACK had been presented to the Department; that the Department had advised that the information available was insufficient to justify prosecution on a charge of misprision of felony; that in their opinion there must be an affirmative action on the part of the subject to conceal evidence; that mere knowledge and failure to notify authorities is not sufficient to support prosecutive action.

The Department further advised that in their opinion BLACK should not remain with the Agents over night any longer and that if a statement was obtained thereafter the Bureau would be in a better position.

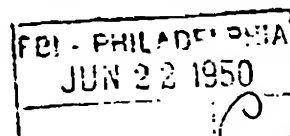
Mr. BELMONT instructed that the questioning of BLACK be discontinued at once.

At 7 p.m., 6/16/50 questioning of BLACK was discontinued, at which time I advised BLACK that we had talked with him over a period of two days; that he was not telling us a complete story; that he had had his opportunity to co-operate with us; and that if he didn't desire to co-operate to the extent of telling the complete story that was up to him; but that in view of the fact that he did not desire to tell us the truthful and complete story we had talked to him long enough. I advised him that if he decided to tell us the true story and wanted to talk to us we would, of course, be glad to hear from him.

AC/mjm  
65-

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
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Filed \_\_\_\_\_

65-4332-264





## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA. J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/22/50

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on 6/21/50 and 6/22/50 on BLACK by SAS JOHN BLAZEK, HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE, ROBERT V. HANCOCK and the writer:

3:40 p.m. 6/21/50

Agents took up the surveillance in the vicinity of 1827 North 5th Street. This is Subject's place of employment.

4:13 p.m.

BLACK left his place of employment. He crossed Germantown Avenue.

4:16 p.m.

BLACK entered the cigar store at 1808 Germantown Avenue.

4:22 p.m.

BLACK left the cigar store and carried a newspaper in his hand.

4:30 p.m.

BLACK returned to his place of employment.

5:10 p.m.

BLACK left his place of employment. He walked north on Germantown Avenue to Berks Street, west on Berks Street to 6th Street, then north on 6th Street.

5:15 p.m.

Subject arrived at his residence, 1929 North 6th Street.

5:22 p.m.

Subject left his residence and walked south on 6th Street to 6th and Berks.

65-4332-269

JCO:MLL  
65-4332

Search 44-2000

PH 65-4332, Memo SAC, 6/22/50

5:25 p.m.

BLACK boarded a street car at 6th and Berks Street, Car #8408, and traveled south on 6th Street.

5:45 p.m.

BLACK got off the trolley at 6th and Market Streets.

5:47 p.m.

Subject boarded a trolley at 6th and Market, going west on Market Street. This was observed by SA HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE.

6:02 p.m.

SA GREATHOUSE observed the Subject get off the trolley at Juniper and Market Streets.

6:05 p.m.

BLACK entered LINTON'S RESTAURANT on Market Street near 13th, and was observed by SA HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE.

6:20 p.m.

BLACK entered the Widener Building and came to the FBI Office. He was observed by SA HANCOCK.

10:27 p.m.

Agents took up surveillance in the vicinity of East and South Penn Square.

10:40 p.m.

BLACK left the Widener Building at the north entrance. He walked east on Market Street to 13th Street on the south side. Subject crossed Market Street and 13th Street, and walked west on Market Street to LINTON'S RESTAURANT.

PH 65-4332, memo SAC, 6/22/50

10:55 p.m.

Entered LINTON'S.

11:15 p.m.

Subject left LINTON'S and walked east on Market to 5th Street.

11:37 p.m.

Subject boarded the trolley at 5th and Market Streets, trolley #8474. This trolley travels north on 5th Street.

11:50 p.m.

Subject got off the trolley at 5th Street and Montgomery Avenue, and walked to his place of employment, where he entered.

12:00 p.m.

Subject left his place of employment. Walked north on 5th Street to Berks, west on Berks to 6th Street, then north on 6th Street.

12:07 a.m., 6/22/50

Subject entered his residence.

1:42 a.m.

Lights were extinguished.

2:05 a.m.

Surveillance discontinued.

All agents have knowledge of Subject's activity set out above, unless otherwise specifically stated.

The original notes on this surveillance are being retained in file 65-4332.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 23, 1950

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on Subject on June 22 and June 23, 1950 by Special Agents HERBERT F. GRIMTHOUSE, JOHN BLANCH, ROBERT V. HANCOCK and the writer. All Agents have knowledge of the Subject's activities as set out below:

JUNE 22, 1950

- 3:45 P.M. - The Agents took up a surveillance in the vicinity of 1827 N. 5th Street. Subject was at this address, his place of employment, at this time.
- 4:10 P.M. - BLACK left his place of employment and walked to the cigar store at 1808 Germantown Avenue.
- 4:19 P.M. - BLACK left the cigar store. He carried a newspaper in his hand and returned to his place of employment.
- 5:15 P.M. - BLACK left his place of employment. He walked South on 5th Street to Montgomery Avenue, West on Montgomery Avenue to 6th Street.
- 5:20 P.M. - Subject boarded trolley car #8243 at 6th Street and Montgomery Avenue. He went South on 6th Street.
- 5:35 P.M. - Subject got off the trolley at 6th and Market Streets.
- 5:37 P.M. - BLACK boarded trolley #8351 at 6th and Market Streets. He went West on Market Street.
- 5:45 P.M. - BLACK got off the trolley at Market and Juniper Streets. He went to Linton's Restaurant on Market Street near 13th Street.
- 6:00 P.M. - BLACK departed LINTON's. He walked West on Market Street through City Hall Plaza to the Broad Street Railroad Terminal and then he came to the Widener Building.

JCO/kob  
65-4332

65-4332-274

RWH

TO: SAC

June 23, 1950

6:30 P.M. - Entered Widener Building.

10:00 P.M. - The Agents reinstituted a surveillance in the vicinity of South Penn Square.

10:10 P.M. - Subject left the Widener Building from the Penn Square entrance.

10:15 P.M. - He entered Linton's Restaurant on Market Street near 13th Street.

10:40 P.M. - BLACK left Linton's and walked East on Market Street to 5th Street.

11:05 P.M. - Subject boarded the 5th Street Northbound trolley #8185 at 5th and Market Streets.

11:15 P.M. - BLACK got off the trolley at 5th and Berks Streets. He walked West on Berks Street to 6th Street, then North on 6th Street.

11:20 P.M. - BLACK arrived at and entered his residence, 1929 N. 6th Street.

JUNE 23, 1950

12:35 A.M. - BLACK's lights were extinguished.

1:05 A.M. - Surveillance discontinued.

The original notes of this surveillance are being retained in file 65-4332

SAC

June 26, 1950

SAS ROBERT E. MASTERS and JACK WALDEMAN

FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

HELLER came voluntarily to the Philadelphia Office at 1 p.m., June 22, 1950 and was interviewed by SAs MASTERS and WALDEMAN until 4:50 p.m. He furnished the following information in addition to that previously set out:

With reference to the circle of friends who surrounded him and BLACK during 1933 and 1934 in VERA KANE's apartment in New York City, HELLER furnished the following descriptive data in addition to that he had previously related and it is set out below in order to facilitate the location of these individuals:

STELLA SARRIG (maiden name) was during the early 30's, a librarian in the Allentown, Pennsylvania High School. She is now probably married, possibly to a politician. She is about HELLER's age (42) and her home was originally in Temple, Pa. Her father was very active politically, was a representative in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and also became Speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate under the administration. STELLA was not a Communist, according to HELLER, but was classified by him as one of the intellectuals who gathered in KANE's apartment. HELLER and BLACK were quite friendly with STELLA SARRIG in the early 30's but HELLER lost track of her over ten years ago.

CHARLES (CHUCK) MEIER was a member of the KANE circle during 1932-33-34. He was a graduate of Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington, and was a Chorist. His parents are farmers near Walla Walla. HELLER classified MEIER as a "liberal" and a "pink." He indicated that as far as he knew MEIER never was a CP member. MEIER was also about HELLER's age and during 1933-34 lived directly across the alleyway from VERA KANE's apartment. MEIER, according to HELLER, was very intimate with VERA KANE prior to HELLER's going to live with her. HELLER would not say whether or not he knew that MEIER and KANE lived together but gave the general impression that he thought that they did. Shortly after HELLER began to live with VERA KANE in October 1934, he and MEIER had words and quarreled about VERA KANE. HELLER believes that MEIER is very probably back in Walla Walla, Washington. VERA KANE told HELLER two or three years ago that she had heard MEIER married a school teacher and was living in Walla Walla.

"BUD" COCK was another member of the KANE circle and was the closest buddy of CHARLES MEIER. COCK also came from Walla Walla and lived with MEIER in New York. COCK was a cowboy and a truck driver and was politically uneducated as compared with MEIER and most other

rcr-jw/lrs  
65-4332

cc 65-4332 (LACE)  
65-4307 (GOLD)

*Question for  
interview  
over*

65-4332-280

*Welte WR*

SAC

June 26, 1950

members of the circle. COOK's father owns a ranch near Walla Walla. HELLER has heard through sources he does not recall that COOK was a Marine in World War II and may have been killed during the war. HELLER does not know COOK's first name but believes he would be about forty years of age if alive.

Dr. JOSEPH SKILTON, who is presently a practicing dentist in Philadelphia, has been one of HELLER's closest friends since high school days and visited a few times in VERA KANE's apartment while other members of the group were present. SKILTON was a major in the Army during World War II and, although an intellectual, has never expressed any Communist sympathies. He should be intimately familiar with HELLER's history and also know VERA KANE and TOM BLACK quite well. HELLER said that he told SKILTON many years ago about having applied to Amtorg for work in Russia but does not recall exactly how much he did tell SKILTON.

J. BIRON McKINNEY, who was known to HELLER as a CP member, has previously been described by HELLER in some detail and this will not be repeated here. However, HELLER now described McKINNEY as a heavy drinker, a "cop hater," and a "cop baiter." He indicated that he lost track of McKINNEY as long ago as 1934 when McKINNEY was living with EMMIE SERESSEN and TOM BLACK in Newark.

Mrs. RHEMIE GRAVES, a member of the KANE circle, was friendly and liberal but not too much politically conscious. HELLER believes that during those days she was possibly society editor of the old New York World. She was about the same age as VERA KANE and, according to HELLER's recollection, met VERA through McKINNEY. Mrs. GRAVES is now believed by HELLER to be a housewife married to a bank lawyer in New York City, the bank being possibly the Chase National Bank or the National City Bank of New York.

A girl named DORIS HENSEL, a member of the KANE circle, had been an actress on the Chautauqua circuit. She too was not too politically minded and had no particular political convictions. VERA KANE told HELLER several years ago that DORIS HENSEL was married, had some children and was living in Georgia. HELLER said that VERA KANE would undoubtedly have her address.

(FNU) CORLEY, another member of the KANE circle, was a neurotic, heavy drinking osteopath, probably from Albany, New York. Tom Black knows CORLEY well and CORLEY was well acquainted with BLACK and HELLER's activities during the 1933-34 period. HELLER said that CORLEY knew VERA KANE "very well" both before and after HELLER lived with her and would be a good source of information about her. He described CORLEY as liberal, not a Communist, and not too astute.

SAC

June 26, 1950

(FNU) LEOPOLD or LOEB was an individual whom HELLER recalls visited VERA KANE's apartment while he was there on probably one occasion. HELLER does not recall whether his name was LEOPOLD or LOEB, but knows definitely that it was one or the other, since this was not long after the LEOPOLD-LOEB kidnapping-murder case in Chicago and this individual told him that he was a second cousin of one or the other of these kidnappers. He was from Philadelphia and was probably a salesman of restaurant supplies.

EDMUND SPENCER was another member of the KANE circle but HELLER was unable to add any details other than previously furnished by him.

HENRY and AURIA BROWN were man and wife and were frequent visitors to the KANE apartment during 1933-34. They were exceptionally friendly with TOM BLACK. They were both liberal politically, although HELLER doubts that they were CP members. HELLER recalls little about HENRY BROWN, but stated that AURIA BROWN was an artist, very deaf and homesy.

HELLER was subsequently asked whether there were any chemists or technicians with whom he associated during that period, but he stated that he could recall none outside of BLACK, SPENCER and KEMER, who are chemists, and MILTON LIFSHITZ, who was a pharmacist. He said that he undoubtedly met a great many chemists since he used to go to the Chemists Club in New York City regularly in an effort to find a job. He filled out many forms at this club and to the best of his knowledge the club is still in existence somewhere on East 41st Street in New York City.

LEHRMAN is the man whom HELLER had met on a longshoremen picket line in the summer of 1934 and information concerning him has been previously set out.

With reference to HARRY GOLD, HELLER said that he is positive that GOLD was never a regular visitor to VERA KANE's apartment during the time that he, HELLER, lived with VERA. He said that GOLD may have been there on one occasion during a party but he has no clear recollection of such a visit. He said that if GOLD was there it has no present significance to him. He is sure that if GOLD was at the KANE apartment it must have been sometime before GOLD's name was mentioned by him to OWENSTEIN at Leone's Restaurant in New York City in October 1934.

HELLER specifically denied ever having heard of anyone named PARCOLLI.



SAC

June 26, 1950

In view of the fact that VERA KANE denied ever having actually lived with HELLER, he was questioned as to who could verify his claim that he did live with her from October 1933 until October 1934. HELLER said that it was general knowledge among their entire circle of friends, the identities of whom have been set out above. He also said that TOM BLACK knew it, Mrs. WALSH, the landlady at the address, knew it, and that a Mr. LAWRENCE, rental agent for the house, also knew it. HELLER said that he knew that VERA KANE had handed out a great many keys to the apartment, most of which were given out before he moved in with her. He said that after he did move in he discouraged the handing out of any more keys, but from time to time strange people, whom he did not even know, dropped in to see her by use of pass keys apparently.

HELLER said that although he never joined the CP or the Friends of the Soviet Union, he did attend several open meetings of the latter organization in 1933-34, which were generally held in Greenwich Village at addresses he does not recall. He recalled that during this period he would also read the magazine called Soviet Russia Today, as well as other Communist literature and that on several occasions in this magazine he saw advertisements of an organization called "Technical Committee to Aid the Soviet Union," which, as he now recalls, was formed for the purpose of enlisting the help of American chemists and physicists in solving the industrial problems of the Soviet Union. He said that he had discussed this committee with his friends, undoubtedly with TOM BLACK and VERA KANE and probably with others, and may even have filled out application blanks which were included in the ads, but is inclined to think that he did not fill any out. He does not know of any of his friends who did this.

HELLER was asked about his recollection of VERA KANE's general personality and he described her as highly intelligent, a graduate of Columbia Law School, rather eccentric and very high strung. He said that she would now be about forty-eight to fifty years of age, that she was married but separated from her husband, has one son and as far as he knows was never a CP member, although her circle of friends was "ultra liberal" and may have included some Communists. HELLER said that VERA KANE always had a good job, that she was steadily employed during the time he knew her and that although she was always fully conversant of both his and BLACK's activities, she was rather disinterested with reference to their desire to go to Moscow. HELLER reiterated that both he and BLACK told VERA KANE all about their initial dealings with AVARDE and with AVARDIAN and said that she typed up at least one group of chemical formulas for him and for BLACK which he, HELLER, turned over to AVARDIAN, as previously reported. HELLER described VERA in general as a "hot Connie" in talking but is sure she never actually joined.

SAC

June 26, 1950

HILLER was again questioned repeatedly as to the number of meetings he had with OVAKIMIAN and he repeated what he had previously said; namely, he had at most three, but more probably only two, meetings with OVAKIMIAN. Efforts were made with HILLER to fix the exact dates of these meetings and after Agents informed him that the records show that he started work at the Celluloid Corporation of America on November 1, 1934, he was able to use this date as a reference point to date his meetings with OVAKIMIAN. His last meeting with OVAKIMIAN and BLACK at Leone's Restaurant he now places as October 21, 1934. On Saturday, October 23, 1934, BLACK brought the formulas to VERA KANE's apartment. On Sunday, October 24, VERA typed this material in his and BLACK's presence and he added certain explanatory comments to the formulas which VERA also typed. On Monday, October 25, he delivered the material to PETERSEN. On Friday, October 29, he filed a job application with the Celluloid Corporation of America, Newark, and was instructed to report for work the following Monday. On Sunday evening, October 31, 1934, BLACK brought a friend of his to VERA KANE's apartment with reference to a job for HILLER. KANE, BLACK, HILLER and this unknown individual then discussed job possibilities for HILLER. BLACK's friend, according to HILLER's recollection, was the head of a consulting chemical laboratory in uptown Manhattan and had been a friend of ERNEST JACOBSON. Apparently some disagreement developed during the discussion and this friend left the apartment in a "huff." HILLER is certain that this individual was not OVAKIMIAN or PETERSEN and that his visit had nothing to do with the ARSON matter. He said that BLACK might be able to furnish the identity of this person.

On Monday, November 1, 1934, HILLER started work at the Celluloid Corporation of America. On November 3, 1934, HILLER found a room somewhere in Newark, the address of which he does not recall since he lived there for only a few days. On Friday, November 5, 1934, BLACK helped HILLER move his belongings from VERA's apartment to this room, the move being made by subway or train transportation on Sunday, November 7, 1934. HILLER quarreled violently with BLACK and VERA KANE and broke off relations with them for a considerable time thereafter. The cause of the quarrel was primarily jealousy which had developed in HILLER, since he believed that relations between BLACK and VERA KANE were becoming too close.

With reference to PETERSEN, HILLER insists that he saw him only once, probably on October 25, 1934. He described him as follows:

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| Color  | White       |
| Age    | In 30's     |
| Height | 5'2" - 5'4" |
| Build  | Wiry        |

SAC

June 26, 1950

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Weight        | 120-140 lbs.   |
| Face          | Tanned or ruddy, quite drawn   |
| Hair          | Unknown (wore felt hat)  |
| Eyes          | Unknown  |
| Dress         | Wore yellow (maybe khaki) pants, suggestive of those worn by a seaman or a farmer and wore either a sweater or suit coat.  |
| Voice         | Had no accent, either foreign or regional. HELLER is sure he was American-born and is also sure that he did not speak either with a New York accent or a southern accent but otherwise has no recollection of him. |
| Peculiarities | HELLER described him as a real man with nothing feminine about him. His clothes were clean, neat and he was very decisive in his actions.  |

HELLER insists that he saw PETERSEN on only that one occasion and he has never since heard BLACK or anyone else mention PETERSEN's name.

Since BLACK has stated that he, CVAKEMIAN and HELLER met on one occasion at Luchow's Restaurant in New York City, HELLER was questioned about this. HELLER said that he recalls being at Luchow's only about twice; once with his ex-wife, DOROTHY WISEWELL, and once with VERA KANE. He said that this restaurant had the reputation of being frequented by Germans and possibly Fascists. HELLER is positive that he never was at Luchow's with CVAKEMIAN or with BLACK alone, although he said it was possible that BLACK may have been with him at Luchow's with either WISEWELL or KANE.

It may be noted here that when DOROTHY WISEWELL was interviewed on June 22, 1950 she said that she had had dinner with HELLER at Luchow's on numerous occasions.

HELLER was questioned about some of his associates following his break with VERA KANE. Among those associates he mentioned one IRIS RABIN, whom he met sometime in 1935 or 1936 and whom he dated on several occasions. He met this girl at Roseland Dance Hall on Broadway, New York City, and described her as neurotic and "screaky" but a good dancer. He said she was divorced and living alone, that she had told him she was a Hungarian and studied PANTOMA under LUDOVIC LUDMAN in Paris and that she had lived with LUDMAN, former Premier of France. RABIN had no particular job but was on city relief and lived in an

SAC

June 26, 1950

apartment in the upper 70's. HELLER said he recalls her because she had a pronounced "spy complex" and indicated to him on several occasions that she was being followed. He denied any knowledge of her political activities, if any, and said that he was just furnishing her name for any value it might have to us. HELLER said that during the same period he met one THEODORE SHEDLOUSKY at the Roseland Dance Hall, this man becoming quite friendly both with him and with IRIS PANKS.

SHEDLOUSKY also attended some of the meetings at 510 Hudson Street, New York, which were of a Communist nature. HELLER said that SHEDLOUSKY was then a physical chemist at the Rockefeller Institute and is probably still there. He and SHEDLOUSKY went out on double dates on several occasions and talked about their work in general terms. SHEDLOUSKY's work, as he now recalls, was of a highly theoretical nature and he remembers that on one occasion SHEDLOUSKY asked him for a sample of unflamable cellulose acetate, which he could utilize for his desk. HELLER gave SHEDLOUSKY a couple of samples of this material which he obtained from the Celluloid Corporation of America, but stressed the fact that there was nothing confidential about this since it could be obtained in any store.

HELLER saw SHEDLOUSKY off and on up to 1937 and last heard from him shortly after the outbreak of World War II, when SHEDLOUSKY telephoned him in Philadelphia and said that he had been on a special mission for the government to Russia and had just returned. They did not actually meet on this occasion and HELLER does not know any more about this individual.

HELLER also recalled that about a year ago, while in New York City, he telephoned SHEDLOUSKY at the Rockefeller Institute and spoke to him very briefly, but not a very cord reception and has not communicated with him since. HELLER recalled that at the time he first knew SHEDLOUSKY, the latter asked him to join a union which he thinks was called the Federation of Chemists, which was probably a constituent union of the CIO. HELLER gave SHEDLOUSKY a non-committal answer, never did join this organization and knows nothing about it.

With reference to information previously furnished by HELLER as to his bank accounts, HELLER added the following, which might have some significance: Toward the end of 1945, when he was working in Chicago, and living at the Ridgeway Hotel in Evanston, he maintained a savings account or a checking account at the Evanston Trust Company, Main Street and Chicago Avenue. On one occasion he received a statement from the bank and one item

SAC

June 26, 1950

on this statement indicated a \$150.00 or a \$200.00 deposit of which he had no recollection. Upon contacting the bank he was informed that the deposit had been made by check on another Chicago bank. HELLER was rather vague about this whole incident but stated specifically that he never made such a deposit, that he never knew who made it, that he has no idea as to why it should have been made and that the only possibility that occurs to him is that it was credited to his account in error. He later withdrew all his money from the bank and the account is now closed.

He said that at the time he discussed the matter with GEORGE WEIKEL, mid-west representative of the American Chemical Paint Company, who was his superior at the time and that WEIKEL may still recall the story. WEIKEL is located at 130 Main Street, Evanston.

HELLER reiterated that he had never been approached by anyone before, during or since World War II, either in the United States or abroad, regarding espionage or pseudo espionage activities.

He said that since his employment at American Chemical Paint Company in 1937 he has devoted himself almost exclusively to company business and that he has lost track of all his former friends, with the exception of TOM BLACK and JOE SKILTON. In his recent two trips abroad his work was of a strictly technical nature and he had no political contacts of any kind. As a matter of record, HELLER's first European trip ended in the middle of December 1949. His second trip began in the middle of May 1950 and ended in early June 1950. During the interim (December 1949 to May 1950) he spent most of his time at home in Philadelphia, although he made short trips on company business to Toronto, Canada; Louisville, Kentucky and Erie, Pennsylvania.

HELLER said that when he visited BLACK's home immediately after his return from Italy in early June 1950, he and BLACK discussed their prior connections with OWENSTON. BLACK asked him how deeply he was involved and he told BLACK that he had seen OWENSTON three or four or, at most, five times, which he now considers in error. He asked BLACK how much further his, BLACK's, connection with OWENSTON had gone and BLACK said that he had met OWENSTON only a couple more times. HELLER then suggested to BLACK that they talk to the FBI and he claims that BLACK said that they might as well wait until the FBI comes to interview them. It may be noted that BLACK confirmed all of the above remarks with the single exception that he specifically denies that HELLER suggested going to the FBI.

SAC

June 26, 1950

HELLER was questioned concerning his residence at 510 Hudson Street. He described this house as a four story building, the first floor of which was occupied by a bakery, the proprietors of which were persons of German descent who also occupied an apartment on the second floor. He said that these people were definitely not Communists and were in fact antagonistic toward the other occupants of the building. He said that AGNES, with whom he lived, occupied an apartment on the third floor, and ALBERT DEW and his family occupied the apartment on the fourth floor. HELLER said that during the time that he shared the apartment with AGNES, she occupied the kitchen and front room and he lived in the back bedroom. He said that during the time he was there no other persons lived with AGNES. HELLER said that AGNES remained in the apartment about a year after he moved and afterwards he was succeeded by SILVIA and DAVE (LNU). He said AGNES was a member of the CP and frequently held affairs in the apartment. He denied that he ever attended any of these. He said the affairs ceased after SILVIA and DAVE moved in and the place became much more quiet. He said he was quite friendly with the DEW family, which consisted of ALBERT DEW, his wife BETTY, his son BENNY and his sister-in-law REBA KLAPPENBERGER. HELLER said he never associated socially or politically with AGNES or with SILVIA and DAVE.

HELLER said that in the summer of 1936 he and BLACK had resumed their friendship. He said that he had heard that BLACK had had an accident in his laboratory and that is how they happened to get back together. He said at that time he and BLACK discussed going to the office of an organization which he thought was named the Committee to Aid the Spanish Loyalists. He said that they actually went to the office and found that at that time they were taking no more people over to fight for Loyalist Spain. HELLER said that as he recalled, Congress had passed an act taking citizenship away from anyone participating in the Spanish war. HELLER said that he was the prime mover in this plan and that BLACK was not too enthusiastic. He said that he and BLACK were not very close at that time, although they did get together occasionally. He introduced BLACK to REBA KLAPPENBERGER and she dated BLACK frequently. He said that after he had moved from Hudson Street he saw none of the group from REBA's, however, he did resume friendly relations with REBA around Christmas 1940.

HELLER said that his friends at this time consisted of REBA KLAPPENBERGER and BEN JONAS, who he met at Brooklyn Hall. He said he saw BEN BLACK occasionally and an individual named FRANK HELLER, who was a friend of BEN JONAS. He said FRANK HELLER at the time was the janitor at the Pennview Hotel on West 34th Street and lived with a woman named GRACE. He said that another individual he met about this time was JIM VAN SICKLE,

SAC

June 26, 1950

when he met at Roseland Ballroom. MILLER could give no background information on VAN NICHLE. He said that he also saw MILTON LEHRMAN occasionally and among those who worked with him he was most friendly with THOMAS NICHIE, who was a technician at the celluloid plant, who resided at 101 North 13th Street, Bloomfield, New Jersey. His address book reflects that he was also friendly with W. E. MILLER, 173 Delaware Avenue, Newark, New Jersey. MILLER said he became friendly with a mechanical engineer named ART PERETTO, whose address he does not know.

MILLER's scrapbook reflects that on January 27, 1937 he had a date with an ELMER COLE, who worked as a cashier in a restaurant but whose address he does not know.

MILLER said that his reason for leaving the Celluloid Corporation of America was because a fellow worker named STRATTON had been needling him and calling him a pansy. MILLER said that he had no social or professional connections with STRATTON, however, it is felt that this individual should be located and interviewed.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 26, 1950

FROM : SA FREDERICK E. GRAPER

SUBJECT:

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE -- R

On June 24, 1950 a physical surveillance was conducted by Special Agent OSCAR E. FLAHERTY and the writer. This surveillance was initiated at 6:30 A.M. on the residence of the above captioned individual.

At 8:30 A.M. the surveillance was joined by Special Agents ALLAN OPPEN and DAVID BRENN in radio car P-66.

At 9:42 A.M. the subject left his residence and proceeded to the M and L Luncheonette where he arrived at 9:46 A.M.

At 10:16 A.M. subject left the M and L Luncheonette and entered the Charles M. Berg Laboratories.

At 10:22 A.M. subject proceeded north on Germantown Avenue where at 10:25 A.M. he arrived at a barber shop located on Germantown Avenue, between Berks and Morris Streets, on the east side.

At 10:45 A.M. the subject left the barber shop and returned to the Berg Laboratories.

At 12:34 P.M. BLACK left the Berg Laboratories, proceeded to the cut rate drug store located on Germantown Avenue. He arrived at this point at 12:39 P.M.

At 1:24 P.M. subject left the cut rate drug store, proceeded towards his residence where he arrived at 1:27 P.M.

At 2:05 P.M. a 1947 or 1948 Oldsmobile, two-tone green sedanette, Pennsylvania 1950 license tags, LLL66 parked in front of subject's residence. Two men entered the building. It is not known whether or not they were visiting subject. A call made by the writer to the Philadelphia Field Office requesting a check of the 1950 Automotive License Registration reflected that this car was registered to one RAY WOLF, 4624 North 10th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

FER:DAD  
65-4332

Index

65-4332-281

Seave



MEMORANDUM -- SAC

June 26, 1950

From 2:05 P.M. until 3:30 P.M., at which time the surveillance was relieved by Special Agents JAMES NEWMAN, JOHN BLAZEK, HERBERT SPITZBERG and ROBERT V. HANCOCK, the subject did not leave his residence.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA WILLIAM J. CURRALL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK - was;  
ESPIONAGE - R.

DATE: 6/19/50

Mr. GERALD SMOLLIAR, Design Engineer, was interviewed by the writer at his place of employment, Eckert and Mauchly, 3747 Ridge Avenue, on June 19, 1950. SMOLLIAR advised that he first met THOMAS BLACK through a friend of his, one JACOB I. FASS. He had known FASS since he and FASS were classmates at Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, New York. FASS and SMOLLIAR graduated from that high school in June 1934. FASS went on to Columbia University where he took a degree in chemistry in 1938, while SMOLLIAR worked for approximately one year before he matriculated at City College, New York. SMOLLIAR graduated from the latter institution with an electrical engineering degree in February 1939.

After graduating from City College, SMOLLIAR went to Washington, D. C., where he worked as a messenger for the War Department in the Adjutant General's Office. In February 1940 he secured a job with the Signal Corps, in which position he travelled to various parts of the United States inspecting Signal Corps equipment. He recalls the following places to which he travelled in connection with his Signal Corps work: Mississippi; Worcester, Mass.; Baltimore, Md.; Washington, D. C.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Rochester, N. Y.

SMOLLIAR continued with the Signal Corps until approximately June 1947 when he left that position to take up his present employment with Eckert and Mauchly. In connection with his Signal Corps assignment, SMOLLIAR advised that he did have access to classified information.

SMOLLIAR recalled that it was sometime after his graduation from college in 1939 and prior to his marriage five and a half years ago that he first met BLACK. He is inclined to think that it was between 1940 and 1942 when the Base Office of the Signal Corps, out of which office he worked, was located in Brooklyn, New York. At whatever time it was he recalls that he stopped in at FASS' home, 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, to visit FASS. BLACK was there at the time and he was introduced to him. He advised that it was no special occasion that brought about the meeting and that he presumes FASS and BLACK had become friendly since both were then employed by the National Oil Products Company in Harrison, New Jersey.

Shortly before World War II the Signal Corps Base Office was moved to Philadelphia, and from that time on SMOLLIAR was located in Philadelphia for the most part. BLACK secured employment as a Consulting Chemist with the Berg Laboratory sometime prior to 1944 and commuted from Newark for this work. BLACK did contact SMOLLIAR from time to time by phone, but SMOLLIAR

WJC:JMS  
65-4322

*Send - a letter should go to Bureau in re Eckert & Mauchly case, summarizing relation of Smolian with Black, et al, since Army has great interest in E & M.*

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PHILADELPHIA  
JUN 21 1950  
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MEMO, SAC

6/19/50

states he is unable to recall the frequency of these contacts and is of the opinion that it was at longer than monthly intervals.

In approximately 1944 FASS came to Philadelphia to organize and operate the Spruce Chemical Company. FASS moved in with a relative of his in Philadelphia and took BLACK in to live with him. Both FASS and BLACK contributed to the establishment of the Spruce Chemical Company on a fifty-fifty basis. At that time they were working on a preparation to be used for a "cold-wave," which was probably similar to the preparation that was subsequently marketed under the trade name of "Toni." The "Toni" preparation, however, was not developed by Spruce Chemical Company. BLACK continued his employment with the Berg Laboratory during this time and continues in that employment at present.

SMOLIAR recalls that he discussed technical questions with FASS and BLACK many time, but the discussions, according to SMOLIAR, never concerned classified matter or anything that could not be found on library shelves. He specifically recalls discussing a problem that FASS had in properly mixing dry powders requiring a particular blend to be used as a detergent. It is a type of material purchased by textile manufacturers for cleaning purposes. The problem concerned building a mixer, designing its shape, and a motor that would allow control of rotation. SMOLIAR did work on this problem with FASS but did not do any of the actual construction. FASS also worked on insecticides, and it is SMOLIAR's recollection that FASS did discuss with him some of his problems in this regard.

In regard to BLACK's contacts, SMOLIAR recalled that BLACK had telephoned him at his home during the evening approximately two weeks ago. BLACK advised SMOLIAR that he could not call him from his place of employment because "they are listening to my conversations - I knew HARRY GOLD." Those were the words used by BLACK, according to SMOLIAR's recollection. He understood by them that BLACK was referring to his boss BERG. SMOLIAR recalled that BLACK had advised him that he had had several arguments with BERG, and believes that at one time before the above incident BLACK had told him that BERG listened in to his telephone conversations. SMOLIAR stated that he could not understand why BLACK did not terminate his work with BERG in view of his apparent antipathy toward him. SMOLIAR stated that he never heard BLACK mention the name "GOLD" before the time of the incident referred to above, and that in addition he had never heard of HARRY GOLD prior to seeing the name in the various newspaper releases attendant to GOLDS recent arrest.

MEMO, SAC

6/19/50

SMOLIAR advised that the purpose of the contact two weeks ago was to discuss the installation of a hot water heater at the Spruce Chemical Company in Patterson, New Jersey. BLACK called FASS and gave him the information.

SMOLIAR recalled that shortly after March of this year FASS left Philadelphia and is now working at the Spruce Chemical Company Building located on the property of one of the company's best customers in Patterson, New Jersey.

SMOLIAR also recalled that at approximately noon on Thursday or Friday of last week he was contacted telephonically by BLACK while he, SMOLIAR, was at work. It is to be noted that BLACK was being interviewed on both Thursday and Friday of last week, June 15 and 16, 1950, at this Office. SMOLIAR stated that BLACK inquired about properly grounding some new equipment received at the Berg Laboratory utilizing a 220 volt line. SMOLIAR stated that he simply advised him to ground it to the water pipe. According to SMOLIAR, he has not heard from BLACK since that time.

BLACK had been to SMOLIAR's house twice in so far as the latter was able to recall. One occasion was in March 1950 when SMOLIAR had a "house warming" at his residence, 4742 Rosehill Street. It was called a house warming in spite of the fact that the SMOLIARS had lived there since February 1949. Both FASS and BLACK attended this affair, which SMOLIAR described as being "social." It was also attended by several of SMOLIAR's friends from Eckert and Mauchly.

SMOLIAR recalled, as the other occasion, a dinner party at his home attended by both FASS and BLACK, which took place at the beginning of this year.

SMOLIAR advised that his contacts with both BLACK and FASS have been primarily concerned with technical questions in regard to electrical problems. BLACK and FASS, both being chemists, and having only a limited knowledge of electricity, have called upon SMOLIAR from time to time because of the fact he is an electrical engineer. SMOLIAR stated that he has never given either FASS or BLACK, or been asked to supply to either of them, or to any other person, any classified information.

SMOLIAR stated that he has no reason to suspect BLACK of disloyalty, and that his conversations with him have been mainly concerning technical questions, so that he would have no basis for making a statement concerning BLACK's loyalty. He doesn't know if BLACK was ever a Communist and claims to be positive that FASS is not a Communist.

MEMO, -SAC

6/19/50

According to SMOLLIAR, one NATHAN RUBENSTEIN, a sheetmetal worker, in Brooklyn, New York, is married to a woman who is JACOB FASS' mother's sister, so that NATHAN RUBENSTEIN is FASS' uncle by marriage. RUBENSTEIN is a cousin of SMOLLIAR's wife, whose maiden name was SCOCOR, so that SMOLLIAR states his wife is distantly related to FASS. SMOLLIAR advises that FASS frequently consults with RUBENSTEIN in regard to any problems he encounters entailing sheetmetal work.

SMOLLIAR advises that he does not know of any of BLACK's associates other than FASS, with the possible exception of some of FASS' relatives with whom BLACK previously lived in Philadelphia.

SMOLLIAR further advised that he was not aware that BLACK had changed his residence from the home of one of FASS' relatives until the time of the call approximately two weeks ago.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 26, 1950

FROM : SA FREDERICK E. GRAPER

SUBJECT:

THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
ESPIONAGE -- R

On June 23, 1950 a physical surveillance was initiated by SA CORDON P. FLINTMAN and the writer. This surveillance began at 6:20 A. M. at the residence of the subject.

The subject made his first appearance at 8:00 A.M., at which time he proceeded to the M. and L Luncheonette, located at Germantown Avenue across from Charles W. Berg's Laboratories.

At 8:18 A.M. the subject entered the Charles W. Berg Laboratories.

At 8:20 A.M. he proceeded to the Hutt Dairy where he purchased a quart of milk and thereafter returned to the Berg Laboratories.

At 8:35 A.M. the surveilling agents were joined by Special Agents DAVID BRENN and ALLAN OPPEN.

At 10:15 A.M. the subject left Berg's Laboratories, crossed Germantown Avenue, and entered the delicatessen located on the corner of Montgomery and Sixth Street. Following a purchase at this store the subject returned to Berg's Laboratories.

At 11:36 A.M. subject proceeded north on Germantown Avenue to the cut rate drug store, where he had lunch.

At 12:31 P.M. subject left the cut rate drug store by way of the Sixth Street entrance, and proceeded to the Berg Laboratories.

At 3:36 P.M. the surveillance was relieved by Special Agents J. CLIFFORD GUSLEY, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE and JOHN ELIZEN.

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 26, 1950

FROM : SA FREDERICK L. GRAPER

SUBJECT:

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE -- R

On June 25, 1950 a physical surveillance was initiated by Special Agent GORDON B. PLAYMAN and the writer. This physical surveillance began at 6:20 A.M. on the residence of the above captioned individual.

At 7:15 A.M. the surveillance was joined by Special Agents DAVID BRENN and ALLAN OPPEN in radio car P-52.

At 7:30 A.M. subject left his residence and caught a street car at the corner of Berks and Sixth Street, and proceeded west via the street car to the Broad and Columbia Avenues corner.

At 7:47 A.M. the subject caught a northbound subway train at Columbia and Broad Street Station. SA DAVID BRENN and GORDON B. PLAYMAN accompanied subject in subway.

At 8:00 A.M. subject was observed by SAs ALLAN OPPEN and the writer entering the North Broad Street Railroad Station. He carried two black suitcases, which appeared to be quite heavy.

At 8:30 A.M. BLACK boarded a northbound Pennsylvania Railroad train with a round trip ticket to Newark, New Jersey. The subject boarded Train #260, Car #3228. SA GORDON B. PLAYMAN and the writer accompanied this subject on the train to Newark, New Jersey.

At 9:58 A.M. subject left the train at the Newark Station and SA GORDON B. PLAYMAN and the writer turned surveillance over to two Newark agents who identified themselves as Special Agent THOMAS L. LOWLING and Special Agent W. L. JESTER.

Philadelphia agents discontinued surveillance at 10:00 A.M.

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: June 26, 1950

FROM : SA FREDERICK A. GRAFER

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE -- R

On June 26, 1950 a physical surveillance was initiated by Special Agent GORDON B. FLAYMAN and the writer on the residence of the above captioned individual at 6:20 A.M.

At 7:10 A.M. the surveilling agents observed subject depositing trash in front of his residence.

At 7:21 A.M. subject left home and proceeded to Hutt's Dairy, located on Berks Street.

At 7:30 A.M. the subject proceeded from Hutt's Dairy to the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, where he entered at 7:35 A.M.

At 7:42 A.M. subject crossed Germantown Avenue from Berg's Laboratories and entered M and L Luncheonette.

At 8:00 A.M. subject left M and L Luncheonette and returned to Berg's Laboratories.

At 8:45 A.M. the surveillance was joined by Special Agents ALLAN OPPEN and DAVID BRENN.

At 11:45 A.M. subject left Berg's Laboratories and proceeded to his residence where he arrived at 11:50 A.M.

From 11:50 A.M. until 12:19 P. M. the subject remained at his residence.

At 12:20 BLACK left his residence and proceeded north on Sixth Street to the cut rate drug store.

At 12:45 P.M. subject left the cut rate drug street and returned to Charles W. Berg Laboratories, where he entered at 1:00 P.M.

At 3:45 P.M. surveillance was turned over to Special Agents ROBERT V. HANCOCK, HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE, JAMES HALLER and JOHN BLAER.

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : ~~SA~~ EARL MITCHELL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE -R

DATE: June 19, 1950

On June 16, 1950 BLACK was taken home from the office by Special Agent ROBERT W. HOLMES. A surveillance was initiated at the time he left this office by Special Agents J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, HILLARD D. THORPE AND JOHN BLAZEK.

BLACK was seen entering his home by the agents at 7:30 P.M.

At approximately 7:32 P.M. he left the house and walked north to a cut rate drug store located at 2040 Germantown Avenue.

BLACK left the drug store at 8:22 P.M., started toward home and returned to the drug store. He stayed in the drug store approximately five minutes, leaving at 8:27 P.M., at which time he returned home arriving at 8:30 P.M.

At 8:35 P.M. SA OUSLEY was relieved by the writer.

There was no activity by the subject until 10:00 P.M., at which time he appeared carrying a black bag. The subject made an about face and immediately returned to the house.

At 10:05 P.M. he re-appeared and walked to the cut rate drug store where he purchased a dish of ice cream.

At 10:15 P.M. he left the drug store and walked to the corner of 6th and Berks Street. He caught a streetcar at the corner of 6th and Berks Streets, transferred to a northbound subway at Broad and Columbia Avenue and arrived at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in North Philadelphia at 10:45 P.M.

From 10:50 P.M. to 11:05 P.M. the subject was observed making several phone calls. He boarded the train for Newark, N.J. at 11:10 P.M. and arrived in Newark at 12:30 A.M.

The surveillance was joined by four Newark agents and the Philadelphia agents were officially relieved at 1:00 A.M.

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA EARL MITCHELL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 19, 1950

On June 19, 1950 a surveillance was started by SA HILLARD D. THORPE and the writer at the home of the subject at 6:20 A.M.

There was no activity noted until 8:15 A.M., at which time BLACK left home and walked to the M and L Luncheonette.

BLACK was seen leaving the luncheonette at 8:25 A. M. and going directly to Berg's Laboratories, which is his place of employment.

At 9:25 A. M. BLACK left Berg's and walked to Hutts Dairy where he purchased a quart of milk and then returned to the laboratory.

At 9:30 A. M. the surveillance was joined by Special Agents FREDERICK E. GRAPER and GORDON B. PLATTAN.

At 11:40 A.M. subject left Berg's Laboratories and walked to the cut rate drugs at 2040 Germantown Avenue, where he ate his lunch.

He left the drug store at 12:25 P.M. and walked straight to his residence.

He left his residence at 12:35 P.M. and returned to Berg's arriving there at approximately 12:40 P.M.

There was no noted activity outside of the laboratory by the subject by 3:40 P.M., at which time the surveillance was officially relieved by Special Agents J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, JOHN BLAZEK, and HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE.

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| JUN 29 1950        |         |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |         |

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 21, 1950

The following is a log of the surveillance conducted on the subject on June 20, 1950, by SAs JOHN BLAZEK, HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE, ROBERT HANCOCK, and the writer. The agents have knowledge of the subject's activity as set out below:

- 4:00 p.m. - The agents took up surveillance in the vicinity of East Penn Square.
- 4:10 p.m. BLACK left the Widener Building from the Penn Square Entrance and walked east on Market Street to about half way between Third and Fourth Streets. He turned around and walked back to Fifth Street.
- 4:43 p.m. Subject boarded trolley car number 8459 at Fifth and Market Streets. He went North on Fifth Street.
- 4:56 p.m. BLACK got off the trolley at Fifth and Diamond Streets; he walked west on Diamond Street.
- 5:02 p.m. Subject entered the Cut Rate Drug Store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.
- 6:25 p.m. BLACK left the drug store and walked south on Germantown Avenue to Berks Street, east on Berks Street to Fifth Street, then south on Fifth Street.
- 6:34 p.m. BLACK entered his place of employment, 1327 North 5th Street.
- 10:50 p.m. Subject left his place of employment. He walked north on 5th Street to Berks Street, west on Berks Street to Germantown Avenue, then North on Germantown Avenue.
- 11:00 p.m. BLACK entered the cut rate drug store, 2040 Germantown Avenue.
- 11:05 p.m. Subject left the drug store using the 6th Street entrance. He walked south on 6th Street.
- 11:13 p.m. BLACK entered his residence, 1929 North 6th Street.

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June 21, 1950

12:07 p.m. Lights out.

12:30 p.m. Surveillance discontinued.

Original notes of this surveillance are being retained in 65-4332.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : EARL MITCHELL, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/22/50

On June 20, 1950, surveillance was started at the residence of the subject by SA HILLARD D. THORPE and the writer at 6:10 A.M. The subject made his first appearance at 8:00 A.M., at which time he walked to 5th and Berks Streets, and then returned home. He re-appeared at 8:10 A.M. and walked to the M and L Restaurant on Germantown Avenue.

The subject ate breakfast and went directly to the lab, which is located across the street from the restaurant. He re-appeared at 8:28 A.M. and walked to the Hutt's Dairy, at the corner of 5th and Berks, where he purchased a quart of milk, and returned to the lab.

In all moves during the morning, the subject gave every indication of being conscious of the surveillance. He was noted by agents appearing at his window several times between 8:32 and 9:45 A.M., each time spending several minutes scrutinizing the street and all automobiles thereon.

At 9:30 A.M., the surveillance was joined by SA'S GORDON B. PLAYMAN and FREDERICK E. GRAPER.

At 10:30 A.M., subject left Berks Laboratory and walked to 6th and Montgomery, where he boarded a streetcar and proceeded to the FBI Office. He arrived at the office at 10:45 A.M., at which time the surveillance was discontinued.

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65-4332-290

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*Handwritten:* *Wells* *(initials)*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : EARL MITCHELL, SA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/22/50

On June 21, 1950, surveillance was initiated at 6:10 A.M. on the residence of the subject by SA HILLARD D. THORPE and the writer. At 8:10 A.M., subject appeared and walked to Levy's Grocery, 1935 Germantown Avenue. He purchased what appeared to be a can of coffee, and then walked to Hutt's Dairy at 5th and Berks Streets, where he purchased a quart of milk.

From the dairy, he walked to Berks Laboratory, arriving there at 8:27 A.M. At 8:50 A.M., he went across the street to the M and L Restaurant and ate his breakfast.

The surveillance was joined by SA'S GORDON B. PLAYMAN and FREDERICK E. GRAPER at 8:55 A.M. BLACK returned to Berks at 9:05 A.M.

At 11:40 A.M., BLACK appeared and walked to the Cut Rate Drug Store, 2040 Germantown Avenue, where he ate his lunch. He left the drug store at 12:40 P.M. and walked to his residence. At 12:45 P.M., he left his residence and returned to the lab. At 3:15 P.M., he appeared and went across the street to 1808 Germantown Avenue, which location is a cigar store, stayed only a few minutes, and then returned to the lab.

At 3:40 P.M., the surveillance was relieved by SA's J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY, HERBERT F. GRATHOUSE, ROBERT V. HANCOCK and JOHN BLAZEK.

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65-4332-291

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC  
FROM : SA EARL MITCHELL  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 23, 1950:

On June 22, 1950, a surveillance was initiated by SA HILLARD D. THORPE and the writer. The surveillance began at 6:10 a.m. at the residence of the subject.

Subject made his first appearance at 8:32 a.m., at which time he walked to Berg's Laboratories where he stood in front of the building and talked to another employee from Berg's for twenty minutes. He then proceeded to the M and L Luncheonette where he ate his breakfast.

At 8:50 a.m., the surveillance was joined by SA's GORDON B. PLAYMAN and FREDERICK E. GRAPER.

At 9:05 a.m., the subject returned to work.

He reappeared at 9:15 a.m. and walked to Hutt's Dairy, purchased a quart of milk and returned to Berg's by 9:23 a.m.

BLACK reappeared at 11:50 a.m. and walked to the Cut-Rate Drugs, 2040 Germantown Avenue, where he ate his lunch.

BLACK left the drug store at 12:40 p.m. and walked to his residence.

He left the house again at 12:53 p.m. carrying a laundry bag, full of what appeared to be clothing, and returned to Berg's.

At 3:45 p.m., the surveillance was relieved by SA's J. CLIFFORD OUSLEY, ROBERT V. HANCOCK, HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE and JOHN BLAZEL.

EM:mbq  
65-4332

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....  
JUN 25 1950  
FBI PHILADELPHIA

SAC

June 27, 1950

S. ROBERT E. MASTERS

FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

At 7:20 p.m., Miss DOROTHY WISELL, former wife of FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER, appeared at the Philadelphia Office and was interviewed by SAs ROBERT E. MASTERS and JACK WALDMAN.

Miss WISELL stated that in 1937 she first started going out with HELLER. She said that during the following years she dated him quite frequently. At length in July 1943 they were married. She said that the marriage ended in a separation in August 1944 and in March 1945 they were divorced.

She said that during the period of their marriage about once a month they would drive to the apartment of TOM ELICK in Newark on a Sunday and spend the day. She said that occasionally they made trips to New York for the week-end and when they did that they usually went up on a Saturday and returned on a Sunday. She said that on these occasions they usually stayed at the Governor Clinton Hotel.

Miss WISELL said that she met VERA KANE twice in KANE's apartment and once at ELICK's apartment. She said the first time she met VERA KANE was at a party in KANE's apartment and that the general conversation and tone of political thinking so bored her that she went to sleep. She stated that as nearly as she could recall these parties, the various participants talked about Communism and the new social order. She said it was impossible for her to remember the names of the individuals present because she only met them that one evening.

She did recall, however, the time ELICK was present and also an individual who was a doctor and who was named CUFLEY. She said that some time later they returned to New York City and went to VERA KANE's apartment. She said that this was in the evening and shortly after they arrived VERA KANE came and told HELLER that she wanted him to take her someplace. KANE and HELLER departed and after several hours had not returned. She said she was left in the apartment with CUFLEY and when she announced that she was returning to the hotel he talked her into having a few drinks in a tavern. It was shortly after this that VERA KANE and HELLER entered. She was never able to find out where they had been nor how they knew they were to meet her at the tavern.

Miss WISELL said that during the period she knew him, HELLER's closest friends were TOM ELICK and EARL GIBARD.

RM/MS  
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65-65432 (ELICK)

Wille



SAC

June 27, 1950

Miss WISWELL stated that she recalled attending a couple of meetings with HELLER at Town Hall, at one of which the poet LANGSTON HUGHES appeared, and it was her impression that this had something to do with the embargo on Spain. She stated that after she had gotten to know HELLER he frequently stopped at the newsstand at 15th and Market Streets to buy a Daily Worker. She said that he read this paper very thoroughly but did not recall that he studied any particular part of the paper.

Miss WISWELL stated that sometime prior to their marriage and also prior to HELLER's application for a commission in the Navy, he discontinued reading the Daily Worker and appeared to tone down his theories on politics.

Miss WISWELL was questioned as to the bank accounts used by them during the period of their marriage and she stated that she had a joint account with HELLER during their marriage at the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society and that this account totalled about \$500 or \$600. They had no stocks or bonds and no bank safety deposit box.

She stated that during their married life they both lived and worked in Philadelphia and HELLER took a two week vacation alone in Vermont at Mt. Mansfield. She said this is the place they visited on their honeymoon.

Miss WISWELL recalled that HELLER and BLACK were interested in ANTORG and what ANTORG was doing in the United States. They had also discussed what they had thought ANTORG could use. She never heard either of them make any mention of their knowing any person employed by ANTORG. She recalled that at one time he had mentioned GOLD's name to her, but she could not recall the situation at the time. She said, however, that as soon as she read of GOLD's arrest in the newspapers she immediately recalled that HELLER knew GOLD.

Miss WISWELL said that the only places she could recall that they visited in New York City was Beatrice's Restaurant in Greenwich Village and the Kaviar on East 13th Street in the Village. She said they also went to dinner at Luchow's frequently.

Miss WISWELL described HELLER as a person who was extremely high strung and who lost his temper easily. She said it was part of his make-up that he could lie without being conscious of it. She said that at times she would catch him in a lie and he would admit that he had been lying. She felt that he had an inferiority complex and was trying to cover up. He

SAC

June 27, 1950

was very sensitive and if he became excited in conversation would stand up and walk around. She said that he talked a lot of Communism in the early days but she never knew whether or not he was a member of the Communist Party. She said that she asked him but was never able to get a satisfactory answer.

SAC

June 27, 1950

SA ROBERT E. MASTERS

FREDERICK PHILIP HELLER, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

At 10:30 a.m., June 23, 1950, Dr. JOSEPH D. SKILTON was interviewed at the Philadelphia Office by SAs JACK WALSHAM and ROBERT E. MASTERS.

Dr. SKILTON said that he was born May 28, 1909 at Philadelphia, Pa. and presently resided at 26 Roseland Avenue, Fox Chase Manor. SKILTON said that he first met HELLER when they were students at Northeast High School and that he has been friendly with him ever since, although HELLER attended college at Penn State and he took dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania.

He said that while he was still single he and HELLER went to Jersey City where he met TOM ELICH who, at that time, was sharing an apartment with an individual named VERNA. He said that he graduated from dental school in 1932 and remained in Philadelphia, practicing dentistry until the war, when he became an officer in the United States Army. He said that during the period 1933 to 1937 HELLER was in New York and he saw him very infrequently.

He said that FREDERICK and he went to a party at VERA's apartment and at that time SKILTON was accompanied by the girl he later married. He said that he got married May 16, 1933 and that he and his wife saw VERA one other time.

SKILTON said that he remembers that HELLER told him that he had tried to get a job in Russia, that he had told him this years ago and that he told him, as nearly as he can recall, that he, HELLER, was going to apply for a job as a chemist because they were paying good salaries in Russia and maybe they would need dentists and he would get SKILTON a job. SKILTON was of the opinion that HELLER's interest was strictly financial.

SKILTON was questioned as to the persons who were in attendance at the party at VERA's and the only name that he could recall was that of CHUCK, the name of an individual who played a guitar and sang cowboy songs. This was undoubtedly CHUCK HARRIS.

SKILTON said that on his first trip to visit HELLER they attended an athletic meeting but he never heard HELLER or any of the others say they were members of the CP. He said that HELLER's closest friends in New York were VERA and TOM ELICH and aside from himself, EARL GIBARD, who is an electrical engineer and presently resides in Glenside. GIBARD is also a high school friend.

RM/mrs  
65-4332

cc 65-4332 (BLACK)

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SAC

June 27, 1950

SKILTON said that based on his knowledge of HELLER since high school days he does not believe that HELLER would have betrayed his country. SKILTON said that he has seen HELLER frequently since 1937 and thinks that since that time HELLER has returned to a level way of thinking.

SKILTON said he received one letter from HELLER for BLACK which BLACK picked up at SKILTON's office. He knows from HELLER that they did not want to send it to KERO's plant because KERO opened BLACK's mail.

SKILTON was questioned as to whether he had knowledge of HELLER having used another name and he said that he recalled that one time after they had graduated from high school, he and HELLER visited Washington, D. C. to try and locate some girls they had met during their high school trip to Washington. He said that at that time they registered at a third rate hotel near the Hotel Metropolitan and one registered under the name HALE and the other under the name HILL. He explained the use of these aliases by saying that HELLER was of the opinion that some day he would be a very successful man and did not want his name appearing on the records of this cheap hotel.

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ALBERT L. PIERCE

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 28, 1950

On June 6, 1950, Special Agent ROBERT HOLMES reviewed item No. 2, obtained from a trash cover placed on the residence of THOMAS BLACK. This item was a bill head, bearing the telephone No. WI 4-7816. This phone number was found to be listed to GERALD SMOLIAR, 4742 North Fairhill Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A check of the Voters Registration Records by SE PAUL J. HOTTINGER on June 7, 1950, revealed registration No. 932642-3, indicating that GERALD SMOLIAR, of 4742 Rosehill Street, Philadelphia, formerly of 827 Wynnewood Road (1948) registered on July 20, 1949, as a Republican. He was born December 5, 1917, in Newark, is white, 5'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, with blue eyes and brown hair. His occupation was listed as an engineer.

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65-4332

65-4332-298

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Reard 45

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA ALBERT L. PIERCE

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 28, 1950

A check of the Voters Registration Records on June 7, 1950, by SE PAUL J. HOTTINGER, revealed that LEON COOPER is not registered. ANNA COOPER of 1908 Dallas Street, formerly of 727 South 60th Street (1946) registered on July 21, 1948, as a Republican and was given Registration No. 676510-3. She was born September 24, 1900, in Poland, naturalized March 14, 1941, Eastern District Court of Philadelphia, No. 5103356, with her own papers. She was indicated as a housewife, white, 5'2" tall, hazel eyes, brown hair, and having lived 27 years in the state.

LOUIS COOPER, of 1903 Dallas Road, was also registered on July 21, 1948, as a Republican and assigned No. 676523-3. He also resided at 727 South 60th Street. He was born September 30, 1900, in Russia, naturalized September 27, 1929, in the Eastern District Court of Philadelphia, No. 3155948. He was indicated as a mechanic, white, 5'6" tall, with brown eyes, mixed gray hair and having resided 25 years in the state.

A check of the Philadelphia indices for LEON, ANNA and LOUIS COOPER was made but no identical references were found.

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| JUN 28 1950        |              |
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65-4332-299

CONF TWO STATIONS

WASHINGTON 1 AND PHILA 1 FROM <sup>7</sup>NEWARK

4

12-17 AM

JGG

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

65-4332 \* mvo

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP DASH R. BLACK CAME TO NEWARK FROM  
PATERSON ABOUT SIX THIRTY PM EDST, HAD DINNER, ATTENDED MOVIE  
AND LEFT NEWARK VIA ELEVEN FIFTEEN PM EDST PENNA. R. R. ENROUTE  
PHILA. PHILA NOTIFIDXXXX NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE.

NC XEE

END

ACK IN ORD

WA NK R -1 WA LRP

PH NK R 1 PM

DISC

Telephone call rec'd 11:25PM, 7/3/50, SA Gus Moore, Newark Division. SA's APPLER, BLAZEK, HANCOCK and HELMER notified to pick subject up North Phila Static Supr. HARZENSTEIN and SA's WELTE AND HOLMES notified of BLACK's returning. SA's GRAPER, HAGAN, and OPPEN notified to start surveillance morning of 7/4/50. GRAPER and OPPEN will start 6:30AM approx. and HAGAN will start approx. 8:30AM.

7/4/50 Appler, Blazek, Hancock  
on Surveillance 3<sup>30</sup> pm

RPC

Complaints.

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noted 12:00AM,  
7/4/50.

65-4332 305

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

FROM : SA HOWARD A. SEARL

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: July 1, 1950

Special Agent FRED GRAPER, who had been participating in the surveillance of the above subject on July 1, 1950, advised the writer that the subject had departed at 11:33 AM from the North Philadelphia Station for Newark via train. Descriptive information concerning the car number, the address of the subject and Special Agent DAVID BREFN, who is accompanying the subject, was received and telephonically related to Special Agent FRANK JAENIKE of the Newark Office at 11:45 AM on July 1, 1950.

The Newark Office was requested to advise this office concerning the subject's return.

It was pointed out to the Newark Agent that the subject contemplated return to Philadelphia on the evening of July 4.

HAS/jmf  
65-4332

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| JUL 6 1950         |              |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |              |

*Searl* *JP*

65-4332-308



BOSTON 12 NEWARK 9 PHILA 10 FROM WASH DC

9-53 PM

SAC-S U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP DASH R. RETEL JULY TWENTY NINE, TWELVE  
FIFTEEN AM FROM PHILA. TO NEWARK AND NY REFLECTING INTERVIEW WITH  
BLACK ON JUNE TWENTY EIGHT LAST. FOR INFO OF BOSTON BLACK ELA-  
BORATED ON NAMES AND MATERIAL FOUND IN LOCKED METAL BOX OF HIS AT  
WAREHOUSE IN NEWARK. CONTAINED AMONG EFFECTS WAS AN ENTRY QUOTE SEE  
NICHOLS E. RUTHERFORD UNQUOTE. ACCORDING TO BLACK THIS ENTRY  
MEANT THAT PAUL PETERSEN, A SOVIET CONTACT, HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO  
CONTACT A MAN NAMED NICHOLS IN EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ. OF NICHOLS  
PETERSEN SAID THAT IN THE PAST HE HAD BEEN A VALUABLE SOVIET  
CONTACT AND HAD WORKED WITH OR FOR SOVIETS WHILE A STUDENT AT  
MASS. INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. PETERSEN HAD LITTLE INFO RE NICHOLS  
EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A GRADUATE OF MIT IN METALLURGY WHOSE HOBBY WAS  
WORKING WITH MICROSCOPES AND THAT HE LIVED IN EAST RUTHERFORD  
IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE AND PROBABLY WORKED IN THE NEWARK AREA.  
RETEL REQUESTED NEWARK TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE  
IDENTITY, BACKGROUND AND ACTIVITIES OF NICHOLS. BOSTON MAKE  
APPROPRIATE INQUIRY OF MIT FOR SAME PURPOSE. BOSTON AND NEWARK  
WILL THEREAFTER SUTEL TO BUREAU AND PHILA IDENTIFYING DATA TO  
ENABLE SEARCH OF INDICES.

HOOVER

BS AND NK ACK AND DISC PLS..... PH HOLD PLS.....

BS WLR WA R 12 BS CFM

NK WA R 9 NK CEG

*Why didn't we  
send lead to  
Boston?*

65-4332-319

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| JUN 20 1950        |         |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |         |

*noted 10:00 PM  
1/50  
[unclear]*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BOSTON**

FILE NO. **100-13169**

|  |                                  |   |  |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>Seattle, Washington</b> | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>5-16-46</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>5/13, 15/46</b> | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>CHESTER L. JACOBY</b> <span style="float: right;">jh</span> |
| TITLE<br><b>JOHN ANNA OILGEM</b>             |                                  |   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>                                |

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject expects to arrive in San Francisco on May 20, 1946 for an indefinite stay. Will stop temporarily at Palace Hotel. Subject has stated he had expected to study the fishing industry at University of Washington, but his plans were changed for reasons unknown to informant. Subject now residing with CHRISTIAN LEIVESTAD and family, 842 Quinn Place, Seattle. LEIVESTAD is employed by New York Life Insurance Company, Seattle, and no derogatory information now known concerning him.

- P -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau file 64-27487  
Report of Special Agent JOHN F. PERRY dated May 2, 1946 at Boston, Massachusetts.  
Boston letter to Seattle dated May 7, 1946.

**DETAILS:** At Seattle, Washington

On May 13, 1946 Confidential Informant T-1 advised that the Seattle First National Bank, Second and Cherry Street, was holding authority from the First National Bank of Boston to pay the subject \$200.00 on May 15, 1946.

T-1 advised on May 15, 1946 that the subject called at the Seattle First National Bank for the money due him at 2:10 p.m. on that date. On the same date the subject informed T-1 that he was proceeding to San Francisco shortly and that he expects to stay at the Palace Hotel.

|  |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES   |
|  |                         |  |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT<br>5 Bureau<br>2 Boston (100-17656)<br>2 San Francisco (Encls - 3) AMSD<br>2 Seattle |                         | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">         SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....<br/>         SERIALIZED.....FILED.....<br/> <div style="text-align: center;">JUL 3 1950</div> <div style="text-align: center;">FBI - PHILADELPHIA</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></span> <span><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></span> </div> |

65-4332-323

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

FILE NO. **100-18169**

|  |                                  |   |   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b> | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>7-13-46</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>7/8-12/46</b> | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>CHESTER L. JACOBY</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>RP</b></span> |
| TITLE<br><b>JORGE GURA GILGUN</b>            |                                  |   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R.</b>                                      |

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject returned to Seattle 6/27/46. WALTER HANSEN of James Farrell & Co., Brokers of Vitamin Oil and Fish Products, states they intend to act as brokers for sale of products produced by Hirschberg of Buenos Aires. Through assistant of HANSEN, subject spent one week observing reduction processes, New-line Liber Processing Co., Anacortes, Wash., and returned to Seattle 7/8/46 where he registered at Roosevelt Hotel. He has continued to show great interest in American methods of production of vitamin products and no Communist or Russian activities have been noted. Is reportedly anxious to return to South America to put his newly-acquired knowledge into use. Subject left Seattle 7/12/46 enroute Chicago and New York City; is riding in 1942 Station Wagon on a share-the-expense basis, arranged through local travel service. Intends to spend one day in Chicago and to arrive New York City 7/18 where he will contact unknown cousin; has PAA reservation from Miami to Buenos Aires leaving Miami 8/5/46.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File 64-27487.

San Francisco teletype to Seattle dated 6/26/46.

Report of SA CHESTER L. JACOBY dated 6/24/46 at Seattle.

|   |                         |   |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>3</b>  | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  |
| <b>65-4332-323A</b><br>COPIES OF THIS REPORT<br>5-Bureau      3-Boston (100-17656)<br>2-Miami (Enc) 2-New York (Enc.) AMSD<br>2-Seattle |                         | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....<br/>           SERIALIZED.....FILED.....<br/> <b>JUL 3 1950</b><br/> <b>FBI - PHILADELPHIA</b> </div> |

DIRECTOR, FBI

6/27/50

SAC, SEATTLE

THOMAS L. BLACK, wa.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Enclosed herewith is the report of SA WILLIAM C. TOWER at Seattle dated 6/26/50 in captioned case.

In view of the possibility that HARRY GOLD may have been in contact with the subject, as reflected by the interview with F. BRUCE SANFORD, it is requested that Seattle Office be furnished all pertinent details in this case so that further contemplated interviews with SANFORD may be intelligently handled.

It is specifically requested that photographs of GOLD and others connected with BLACK at this time, preferably taken around 1938, be forwarded this office in order that they may be exhibited to SANFORD.

Concerning the case captioned "JORGE GURA GILGUN" mentioned in this report, it is requested that the Bureau furnish Philadelphia Office with all pertinent information concerning that case, inasmuch as GILGUN was a chemist and was alleged to be associated with the Communist Party in Argentina, and may conceivably have been connected with ELACK in this case inasmuch as it is noted that SANFORD figures in both of these investigations.

No derogatory information concerning F. BRUCE SANFORD appears in the Seattle files, and his demeanor during the interview appeared to be cooperative. It is contemplated that he can be re-interviewed in the very near future, as soon as his wife has returned from a vacation trip. It is noted that she has the family address book in her possession.

It is further requested that the Philadelphia Office advise the Newark Office if it desires that the lead set out in the enclosed report for the Newark Office be covered in this case.

WCT:haz

65-3095

ENCLOSURE

cc: Philadelphia (ENCL)  
Newark (ENCL)

4/9/54

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| JUL 6 1950         |         |
| FBI - PHILADELPHIA |         |

Reed  
Walke  
WRW

by the photos & leads  
have any value to us,  
OK - but please

14222-223 C